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CHRISTMAS.

ANNIE AND WILLIE'S PRAYER.

BY MRS. SOPHIA P. SNOW.

[*Printed by Request.*]

"Twas the eve before Christmas; "Good-night" had been said,
And Annie and Willie had crept into bed;
There were tears on their pillows, and tears in their eyes,
And each little bosom was heaving with sighs,
For to-night their stern father's command had been given,
That they should retire precisely at seven,
Instead of eight; for they troubled him more
With questions unheard of than ever before;
He had told them he thought this delusion a sin,
No such being as "Santa Claus" ever had been,
And he hoped, after this, he never should hear
How he scrambled down chimneys with presents each year.
And this was the reason that two little heads
So restlessly tossed on their soft, downy beds.
Eight, nine, and the clock on the steeple tolled ten;
Not a word had been spoken by either till then,
When Willie's sad face from the blanket did peep,
And whispered, "Dear Annie, is you fast asleep?"
"Why, no, brother Willie, a sweet voice replies,
"I've tried it in vain, but can't shut my eyes;
For, somehow, it makes me so sorry because
Dear papa has said there is no 'Santa Claus;'
Now we know there is, and it can't be denied,
For he came every year before mamma died;
But, then I've been thinking that she used to pray,
And God would hear everything mamma would say,
And perhaps she asked him to send Santa Claus here,
With the sacks full of presents he brought every year."
"Well, why can't we pay dest as mamma did then,
And ask him to send him with presents aden?"
"I've been thinking so, too." And without a word more
Four little bare feet bounded out on the floor,
And four little knees the soft carpet pressed,
And two tiny hands were clasped close to each breast.
"Now Willie, you know we must firmly believe
That the presents we ask for we're sure to receive;
You must wait just as still till I say 'the Amen,'
And by that you will know that your turn has come then."
"Dear Jesus look down on my brother and me,
And grant us the favor we are asking of Thee;
I want a wax doll's, and Annie a set;
And an ebony work-box that shuts with a spring;
Bless papa, dear Jesus, and cause him to see
That Santa Claus loves us far better than he.
Don't let him get fretful and angry again
At dear brother Willie and Annie, Amen!"
"Please, Desus, 'et Santa Taus tum down to-night,
And bring us some presents before it is light;
I want he should dive me a nice little sled,
With bright, shiny runners, and all painted red;
A box full of tandy, a book and a toy,
Amen, and then, Desus, I'll be a good boy."
Their prayers being ended, they raised up their heads,
And with hearts light and cheerful again sought their beds;
They were soon lost in slumber, both peaceful and deep,
And with fairies in Dreamland were roaming in sleep.
Eight, nine, and the little French clock had struck ten,
Ere the father had thought of his children again;
He seems now to hear Annie's half-suppressed sighs,
And to see the big tears stand in Willie's blue eyes.
"I was harsh with my darlings," he mentally said,
"And should not have sent them so early to bed;
But then I was troubled—my feelings found vent,
For bank stock to-day has gone down ten per cent.
But of course they've forgot their troubles ere this,
And that I dealed them the thrice-asked-for kiss;
But, just to make sure, I'll steal up to their door
For I never spoke harsh to my darlings before."
So saying he softly ascended the stairs,
And arrived at the door to hear both of their prayers
His Annie's "bless papa" draws forth the big tear,
And Willie's grave promise falls sweet on his ear.
"Strange, strange. I'd forgotten," said he
With a sigh,
"How I longed, when a child, to have Christmas draw nigh.
"I'll atone for my harshness," he inwardly said,
"By answering their prayers ere I sleep in my bed;"
Then he turned to the stairs and softly went down—
Threw off velvet slippers and silk dressing-gown—
Donned hat, coat and boots, and was out in the street.
A millionaire facing the cold, driving sleet;
Nor stopped he until he had bought every thing;
From the box full of candy to the tiny gold ring;
Indeed, he kept adding so much to his store,
That the various presents outnumbered a score;
Then homeward he turned with his holiday load,
And with Aunt Mary's aid in the nursery 'twas stored;
Miss dolly was seated beneath a pine-tree,
By the side of a table spread out for her tea;
A work-box well filled stood beside the stove was laid
And on it a ring, for which Annie had prayed.
A soldier in uniform stood by a sled,
"With bright shining runners and all painted red."
There were balls, dogs and horses, books pleasant to see,
And birds of all colors were perched in the tree;
While old Santa Claus, laughing, stood up in the top,
As if getting ready more presents to drop.
And as the fond father the picture surveyed,
He thought for his trouble he had amply been paid.
And he smiled to himself as he brushed off a tear,
"I'm happier to night than I've been for a year.
I've enjoyed more true pleasure than ever before,
Hereafter I'll make it a rule, I believe,
To have Santa Claus visit us each Christmas Eve."
So thinking, he gently extinguished the light,
And tripped down the stairs to retire for the night.
As soon as the beams of the bright morning sun
Put the darkness to flight, and the stars, one by one,
Four little blue eyes out of sleep opened wide,
And at the same moment the presents espied.
Then out of their beds they sprang with a bound,
And the very gifts prayed for were all of them found.
They laughed and they cried in their innocent glee,
And shouted for "papa" to come back and see
What presents old Santa Claus brought in the night,
(Just the things that they wanted) and left before light.
"And now," added Annie, in a voice soft and low,
"You'll believe there's a Santa Claus, papa, I know."
While dear little Willie climbed up on his knee,
Determined bet-ween tho secret could be;
And told, in soft whispers, how Annie had said
That their dear, blessed mamma, so long ago dead,
Used to kneel down and pray by the side of her chair,
And that God up in heaven had answered her prayer.
"Then we dot up and payed dust as well as we tould,
And He answered our prayers, now wasn't He dood?
'I should say that He was, if he sent you all these.
And knew just what presents my children would please.
(Well, well, let him think so, the dear little elf,
'Twould be cruel to tell her I did it myself.")
Blind father, who caused your stern heart to relent?
And the hasty word spoken so soon to repent?
'Twas the being who bade you steal softly up stairs,
And made you his agent to answer their prayers.

(For the Pittsburgh Gazette.)

A FEW OLD FRIENDS.

A Christmas Dream.

BY A NEWS EDITOR.

Mr. Cutter X. Byshears, news-editor of the Sappington *Courier*, sat in his professional den surrounded with heaps of mutilated newspapers. It was the night, or rather the afternoon before Christmas, and Cutter had just finished looking over his exchange list and was pretty well fagged out and ready to enjoy the coming holiday. In his hand he held a note from Mr. Wright, the chief editor of the *Courier*. The note was not, as usual, pencilled on blank newspaper, but was written with pen and ink on a square sheet of English note paper and enclosed in a monogram bedecked envelope. In fact it was not official, but private, written from what the reporters called "the palatial residence" of Mr. Wright. It was as follows:

MY DEAR CUTTER: Will yon gratify Mrs. W. and myself by spending this, Christmas eve, with us? You will meet only a few old friends.

I. WRIGHT.

Mr. Byshears read this note and pondered over it. It was kind in Wright asking him in that way; no formality, no airs, and yet a certain amount of style, too, as represented by the monogram and pen and ink. Only a few old friends! Who would they most probably be? There would be ladies among them of course! And amid similar reflections, and surrounded by his heaps of newspapers, with his scissors and pencil on the table beside him, Cutter's head sank on his breast, he settled gradually deeper in his arm chair and soon fell asleep.

"Ah, Cutter, my dear fellow! come in, come in, glad to see you my boy! Only a few old friends. Mrs. Wright, here is Mr. Byshears!" Cutter was puzzled. The excessive cordiality was something unusual, but the voice was the voice of Esau. There was no doubting that—and then he said: Mrs. Wright. So he followed his host, in a somewhat bewildered state, into a large room where there was certainly a very curious assembly. There was a vagueness about it all that was remarkable. The room seemed to be sometimes indoors and sometimes out, now in the country and again in the city; and the people all had an indistinct maziness about them, all, that is, save the ones to whom he happened to pay especial attention. Social equality seemed to be the rule for there were white and colored, young and old, rich and poor, maimed, ailing and healthy all moving about together.

There seemed to be some sort of a dance going on and Cutter was led up to a healthy looking girl to whom he was introduced, and, without catching her name, he at once asked her to dance. The young lady after closely examining the soles of her shoes, appeared to be satisfied with their condition and accepted Mr. Byshears as a partner. Lightly placing his arm around her waist he whirled her down the room in his most graceful and fascinating style, for, though the company could hardly be said to represent the "elite of the city," of whom he was always reading, yet it was Mr. Wright's company and they should see how a news editor could dance. Suddenly the hand which clasped the girls' waist was sharply pricked with a pin and at the same time he noticed, with horror, what seemed to be the point of a pin sticking directly out of his partner's blooming cheek. Hastily snatching away his hand he was about to apologise, and take her hand when he saw pin points protuding from her knuckles, and at the same moment she said: she was afraid she must sit down again as she felt them coming to her feet. Without understanding, Cutter led her to a seat, which she had hardly taken when she bounced up, saying: "No, that won't do; I must have a lounge;" and she sank gracefully into one which fortunately happened to be near. "Are you hungry, Madame?" asked Cutter. "Not at all; why?" was the reply. "Oh, I thought you were, you seemed so sharp set." Without noticing this imbecile witticism, she replied: "Oh, my gracious! no. Why, didn't you recognize me? I am a very old friend of yours. I'm the girl who has had ripened when the leaves were tinged with autumn, and wines of the most frightfully compound adulterations. Of course "every delicacy of the season" was there as well as "every thing that could tempt the palate" and Cutter was just about to fall to work, after helping his companion, when he awoke.

He rubbed his eyes and looked around. He recognized his own "sanctum," his scissors, paste, exchange heaps and books; and at length his eyes fell upon the note from Mr. Wright which had fallen down and was lying on the floor at his feet. Picking it up, he noticed the last words, "You will meet only a few old friends." With a laugh he thrust it into his pocket and thought they would hardly be any *older* friends than those whom he had just encountered in his dreams.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL.

BY CHRISTINA ROSSETTI.

In the bleak mid-winter
Frosty wind made moan;
Earth stood hard as iron,
Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
Snow on snow,
In the bleak mid-winter
Long ago.

II.

Our God, heaven cannot hold Him
Nor sustain,
Heaven and earth shall flee away
When he comes to reign;
In the bleak mid-winter
A stable-place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty—
Jesus Christ.

III.

Enough for Him whom Cherubim
Worship night and day,
A breastful of milk
And a manger full of hay;
Enough for Him whom angels
Fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel
Which adore.

IV.

Angels and Archangels
May have gathered there,
Cherubim and Seraphim
Thronged the air;
But only His mother
In her maiden bliss
Worshiped the Beloved
With a kiss.

V.

What can I give Him,
Poor as I am?—
If I were a Shepherd
I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise Man
I would do my part—
Yet what can I give Him
Give my heart.

—*Scribner's for January.*

THE CHRISTMAS OF SIR GALAHAD.

BY ELIZABETH STUART PHELPS.

[From the Independent.]

When a fancy, fashioned neither after the inductive nor the deductive methods, attributable neither to natural selection nor to protoplasm, definable by no law of contradiction nor of excluded middle, presents itself to the public acquaintance nowadays, it is apt, as we all know, to receive rather a sorry welcome. And when, after the sadly tardy discovery of the Lady of Shalott, in South street, one of those remarkable rumors, credence to which is at once a danger and a delight, stole about town, it stole on tiptoe, looking over its shoulder meanwhile at corners with one soft shy eye on the police and another on the daily press, and a startled glance at the fashionable churches, and a tender shudder at the shadow of the "Institute," and its beautiful finger at its lips—making thus slow progress, and, for every warm-hearted faith which it shook by the outstretched hand, leaving two doubts to close ranks behind it.

Such as it is, however, and for what it may mean, this is the whisper. It would be found so it is said, had we the eyes that see or the ears that hear either signs or sounds of such a matter, that certain of the old Romanesque legends which we are customed to regard as finished and fated for all time are, in fact, re-enacting and repeating themselves, with a timidity amounting almost to stealth, in the chilling and alien climate of our modern civilization: that certain fine sounding words, valor, nor the telegraph overtaken chivalry, nor universal suffrage extinguished loyalty, that the golden years did not go dumbly to their graves, as we are wont to think; that they have arisen, like Lazarus, with their chin cloths on, acquainted with things unlawful to utter—reserved, still visitors, shunned and strange. It is breathed that there somewhere walks the earth to-day the Blameless King; it is hinted that there somewhere hides the Mismated Queen; it has been said that at times the Vanished Knights of the Round Table gather together in strange guise, to stranger converse; that a student familiar with their story would be well puzzled should he stumble upon them; that Sir Percival has been seen in a Pennsylvania coal-mine; that Bohort was discovered in New York one day, in a bricklayer's apron, with a trowel in his hand; that about the Fair was identified in a hospital at Washington the left arm of the Rebellion; that Launcelot, penitent and pale, may be heard, if one is so fortunate as to trace him, in the form of a certain street preacher, but little known, who gathers ill-favored men and women about him in an unsavory part of the town at the decline of the Sunday afternoon; that Guinevere is rumored to appear at this time alone in a chamber looking toward the west, engaged in keeping a certain watch which has been set her, for a peril and a promise which no man knows; that Arthur himself filled a post of high official importance at Washington not long ago, and, escaping identification through disguise and secrecy, disappeared suddenly and mysteriously from public life; that, in short, Romance never died, nor ever will, but is adjudged to be the only immortal thing on earth, save the soul of man.

As much as this, in common with a few others, so far favored, I had heard and forgotten, till chance threw the whole chain of pretty dreams before me, by missing one link around my very hands. As much as this I found myself compelled to recall with more than common thoughtfulness when I came face to face with Sir Galahad at a butcher's stall, last Christmas morning.

Did you ever know a lost knight to be found until a woman tracked him? Is it, therefore, surprising that if it had not been for Rebecca Rock, Sir Galahad Holt would have escaped recognition completely, and the modest number of men and women now admitted to the secret of the discovery have gone the hungrier and the sadder for the loss?

It was always a matter of deep scientific speculation to Rebecca Rock why, when she came to town to find work in the neck-tie factory, she should have chosen lodgings in the second back corner of 16½ Primrose Court. She would say: "If I had hit on the western side;" or, "If I had been able to pay the rent of that room opposite the factory!" or, "How near I came to settling on the little south attic of 17!"

And she sat and mused upon it with a puzzled face. If, indeed! What an "If" it was! Such an If as there would have been in the world if that other Isolde had taken the wrong train and missed of meeting Isaac in the desert at the set of the sun; or if Eve had lost her way in the shrubbery of Eden, and just happened not to find Adam till nobody knows when!

Perhaps, too, such an If as there would have been if Heloise had never gone to school to Abelard; or Di Rimini had never seen her lover's face? The world would have lost a grand temptation. So much as that, Rebecca Rock, cutting "foundation" into strips for the public neck, eleven hours a day, confusedly felt; but she had never heard of Heloise, and if she had been obliged to sit beside Francesca Di Rimini in the neck-tie factory she would have shrunk in the wounded wonder of a snow-drift from a foot-mark.

How long it was before Galahad Holt, coming home from the organ factory at seven o'clock to his solitary ground floor lodging at 16½, noticed the tall woman in the blanket shawl, who came in a little later and passed his door in going up stairs; how long before a sense of anything more than tallness and a shawl occurred to him; how soon he noticed the outline of her arm when the shawl fell from it, as she laid her large, strong hand upon the banisters; when he first observed the regular, calm echo which her step left upon the creaking stairs; when first he met her carrying a pail of water from the Court, and instead of feeling moved to carry it for her, only thought how evenly she carried it for herself; when first she smiled at suddenly observing him; when first he gravely said good morning; when first he gravely joined her if they chanced upon the same side of the street in passing to and from work; how first he gravely learned to discuss with her the fall in wages, and the wind we had on Saturday, the rise in coal, and the sunset there would be to-night; and when first he gravely came to feel that tempt the palate" and Cutter was just about to fail to work, after helping his companion, when he awoke.

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"Did you come to get the stockings?" But Sir Galahad answered solemnly:

"Did you think I'd cross the stairway till I came for you? Merry Ann's down below, Rebecca. Will you be afraid to step down with me?

Where would Rebecca have been afraid to go with him. She followed him down the stairs, which would have creaked, it seemed, but could not, beneath Sir Galahad's solemn, shining feet.

Merry Ann was below; indeed—at length upon Sir Galahad's floor, before the cook-stove, a sickening, silent heap. A little shawl was tied about her head, and her face was hidden on her arm.

"I but just come in and found her," said Sir Galahad, in his commonplace, unromantic way; "and I thought I'd tell you what happened, Rebecca, before the coroner was called. I don't think it was a fit. She'd walked a distance, I can't but think, and hoped to have catched a look at me. Poor Merry Ann!"

"Poor Merry Ann?" said Rebecca Rock, with all her heart. She had fallen on her knees beside the dead, and had dropped her face into her hands.

"And now, Rebecca," said Sir Galahad. "Now, Rebecca—" But when he saw her on her knees he dropped beside her and said no more. And when the landlady came in they did not ask her if it were proper, but she said "Law, yes!" as if they had, and turned her face away.

"And now, Rebecca," said Sir Galahad again—"now the grave is covered decent, now the room is swept, and the storm is over, and I've waited four years for you, honest in the sight of God and the stars o' Heaven and Christmas comes o' Monday—"

"Very well," said Rebecca.

"I don't seem," said Sir Galahad, "to have the words I thought I had to say, my girl. I'd got so used to waiting, hadn't you? I do not rightly see my way to take it natural and safe. I think I'd not like, nor dare, my dear, to have it any other day than Christmas Day; would you?"

I was glad that there was no wind on Christmas, and that the snow lay drifted over from a little, laughing storm; and that the sun brooded with golden wings in Primrose Court; and that the town was full of holly; and that the Lady Rebecca had a spray of myrtle in her large, firm hand, when she walked with Sir Galahad to the minister's front door.

And when I met Sir Galahad at the meat-stall, buying steak for dinner, and saw the eyes and smile he carried in the sight of God and Christmas Day, I bethought me of the records of the Spotless Knight: how he—tried, stainless, and alone—was found worthy to be the guardian ("pure in thought and word and deed") of the blessed cup from which our Lord drank the last wine which should touch his lips till he drank it new in the kingdom of the Father; how his mortal eyes beheld it, palled in red samite, treasured by "a great fellowship of angels; how his mortal hand laid hold of it and Heaven, and his mortal name grew to be a holy thing upon the lips of men forever; and how since then was there never one so worthy as he that had seen the Sangreal on earth any more."

"Sir Galahad," said I, "you have found the Sangreal, and I have found you."

But he, smiling, shook his head.

"I don't feel altogether sure. It seems to me a man don't know what he's found till he's learned to bear his happiness as he bore his longing for it, and his waiting, and his loss. But I can't help hoping, somehow, that I'm fit to be married on a Christmas Day."

CEREMONIES FOR CHRISTMAS.

BY ROBERT HERRICK.

Come, bring with a noise,
My merry, merry boys,
The Christmas log to the firing;
While my good dame, she
Bids ye all be free,
And drink to your heart's desiring.

With the last year's brand
Light the new block, and
For good success in spending,
On your paistries play,
That sweet luck may
Come with the log, and the teending.

Drink now the strong beer,
Cut the white loaf here,
The while the meat is a-sreedding;
Rost the pig, and the
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Over the mantel hung a heterogeneous trophy of antlers, swords, a long Mexican lance, an old-fashioned blunderbuss, and a guidon bearing the blue trefoil of the Leiths. The book-case filled one end of the chimney recesses, on top of which was stretched a magnificent stag-hound—stuffed in the most artistic manner. In the other recess was an antique secretary, bound and ornamented with brass, which (more than a century before) had been sent from England as part of the wedding outfit of a bride of one of the Leiths, and which possessed, among other treasures, a genuine "secret drawer" with orthodox spring and slide, discovered some fifty years before by Gen. Leith, though, much to the disappointment of his grand children, he could not boast of having found anything more valuable than a long tress of golden hair, a sprig of myrtle that seemed once to have been orange blossoms, and a yellowed scrap of paper, setting forth that on the twenty-fourth of December, 1745, Eleanor Graeme did become the happy wife of Roy Leith. A well filled rack of guns and fishing rods, a massive table rather untidily covered with books and papers, and chairs of every style of comfort and discomfort, completed the furniture of the room. Side by side sat the two Roys, grandfather and grandson, wonderfully alike, though sixty years lay between them, both deep in reverie undisturbed by the uproar the boys were making or the excited yelps of the terrier. Roy, senior, dreamed of the past, of his dead wife, his sons, his daughter, whose picture smiled upon him from the wall. Roy, junior, dreamed of the future, of Nelly, and of gaining grand-father's consent, as he had gained Nelly's that very afternoon.

Reveries and quarrels were alike given up, as a clear, girlish voice was heard in the hall, vigorously singing

"Carol, brothers, carol!"

and in another second, the boys' beloved Eleanor had danced into the room, rigged out in a dress which in the first Eleanor Leith had worn. A white and kirtle of pale blue silk, brocaded with bunches of gay flowers, looped over a pink silk petticoat, quilted in an intricate pattern of roses, vines, and tiny diamonds, a great kerchief of soft old lace around her shoulders, and cob-webby ruffles at her elbows. Gold dust sparkled in her fair hair, and as she moved across the room the high heels of her high-quartered paste-buckled, silk shoes, clicked like castanets on the uncovered floor. After her walked the veritable Santa Claus himself; jolly face, fuss and pack,—empty now to be sure—for Eleanor had been playing "Lady Bountiful" to the school children, she had his stockings—and a fancy as of patient pilgrims came to her, and a dream of holy ground. But she said:

"Did you come to get the stockings?" But Sir Galahad answered solemnly:

"Did you think I'd cross the stairway till I came for you? Merry Ann's down below, Rebecca. Will you be afraid to step down with me?

Where would Rebecca have been afraid to go with him. She followed him down the stairs, which would have creaked, it seemed, but could not, beneath Sir Galahad's solemn, shining feet.

Merry Ann was below; indeed—at length upon Sir Galahad's floor, before the cook-stove, a sickening, silent heap. A little shawl was tied about her head, and her face was hidden on her arm.

"I but just come in and found her," said Sir Galahad, in his commonplace, unromantic way; "and I thought I'd tell you what happened, Rebecca, before the coroner was called. I don't think it was a fit. She'd walked a distance, I can't but think, and hoped to have catched a look at me. Poor Merry Ann!"

"Poor Merry Ann?" said Rebecca Rock, with all her heart. She had fallen on her knees beside the dead, and had dropped her face into her hands.

"And now, Rebecca," said Sir Galahad. "Now, Rebecca—" But when he saw her on her knees he dropped beside her and said no more. And when the landlady came in they did not ask her if it were proper, but she said "Law, yes!" as if they had, and turned her face away.

"And now, Rebecca," said Sir Galahad again—"now the grave is covered decent, now the room is swept, and the storm is over, and I've waited four years for you, honest in the sight of God and the stars o' Heaven and Christmas comes o' Monday—"

"Very well," said Rebecca.

"I don't seem," said Sir Galahad, "to have the words I thought I had to say, my girl. I'd got so used to waiting, hadn't you? I do not rightly see my way to take it natural and safe. I think I'd not like, nor dare, my dear, to have it any other day than Christmas Day; would you?"

I was glad that there was no wind on Christmas, and that the snow lay drifted over from a little, laughing storm; and that the sun brooded with golden wings in Primrose Court; and that the town was full of holly; and that the Lady Rebecca had a spray of myrtle in her large, firm hand, when she walked with Sir Galahad to the minister's front door.

And when I met Sir Galahad at the meat-stall, buying steak for dinner, and saw the eyes and smile he carried in the sight of God and Christmas Day, I bethought me of the records of the Spotless Knight: how he—tried, stainless, and alone—was found worthy to be the guardian ("pure in thought and word and deed") of the blessed cup from which our Lord drank the last wine which should touch his lips till he drank it new in the kingdom of the Father; how his mortal eyes beheld it, palled in red samite, treasured by "a great fellowship of angels; how his mortal hand laid hold of it and Heaven, and his mortal name grew to be a holy thing upon the lips of men forever; and how since then was there never one so worthy as he that had seen the Sangreal on earth any more."

"Sir Galahad," said I, "you have found the Sangreal, and I have found you."

But he, smiling, shook his head.

"I don't feel altogether sure. It seems to me a man don't know what he's found till he's learned to bear his happiness as he bore his longing for it, and his waiting, and his loss. But I can't help hoping, somehow, that I'm fit to be married on a Christmas Day."

CEREMONIES FOR CHRISTMAS.

BY ROBERT HERRICK.

Come, bring with a noise,
My merry, merry boys,
The Christmas log to the firing;
While my good dame, she
Bids ye all be free,
And drink to your heart's desiring.

With the last year's brand
Light the new block, and
For good success in spending,
On your paistries play,
That sweet luck may
Come with the log, and the teending.

Drink now the strong beer,
Cut the white loaf here,
The while the meat is a-sreedding;
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DAILY GAZETTE.

OFFICIAL PAPER
Of Pittsburgh, Allegheny City and Allegheny County.

GAZETTE BUILDING:
Corner of Sixth Avenue and Smithfield Street.

MONDAY, DEC. 25, 1871.

BONDS at Frankfort 96¾.

PETROLEUM at Antwerp, 47½f.

GOLD closed in New York on Saturday at 108¼@108¾.

CHRISTMAS.

The sudden and extraordinary change in the weather from intense cold, to almost summer heat, will tend to check the enthusiasm over the Christmas festival, and somewhat mar its pleasures. The change is general throughout the country and is as remarkable as it is unwelcome. We always hope for dry and frosty weather during Christmas week, as it greatly adds to the elasticity of one's feelings, and brings the cherry glow out on the cheeks of the little folks, as they scamper through the streets in search of strange sights and scenes. "Merry Christmas" is the one welcome sound wich greets the ear on every hand, and the little voices pipe the music of their mirth to all whom they meet. This is the day, above every other in the year, in which all should be happy. In order that this shall be preeminently so, those of us who are blessed with abundance, should not forget the lowly and humble, to whom Christmas brings no peculiar joy, and sheds no softening radiance. The cheerless fireside is never a welcome place, and the lot of the poor can, therefore, not too often engage our thoughts, and command our attentions. Let us to-day remember those of our people whom Providence has denied the rich blessings, with which he has been pleased to endow us, and may the hearthstone of the widow and the orphan, be cheered and brightened by the presence of the earth angels, administering unselfishly to their happiness.

We greet our friends, and take this joyous occasion to return our thanks for the partiality hitherto shown us, and here renew our pledge to do all that is within our power to furnish them each week-day morning with the freshest news that can be collected from the four winds, and to do all and everything within our means to maintain the honored name of the GAZETTE, and hand it down, when our task shall be ended, unimpaired, and free from stain.

As usual, there will be no paper issued to-morrow, in order that all of our employees may enjoy a full holiday.

Merry Christmas to all.

SPAIN.

The relations existing between this country and Spain are at this moment exciting considerable comment in political and social circles. That the cordiality and good fellowship previously existing between the two governments has been seriously shaken and almost destroyed by the events of the past several years cannot be denied, and that more serious trouble may come out of the diplomatic disagreement is entirely possible, if not probable. Spain is no great military power. Her glory is passed, and she now sits back in a retired place among the greater nations of Europe. Her government is weak and unstable and her military forces are of no very great strength. In her navy alone she has advantage, and it is upon this branch of her service that she most depends. On her superior navy too, she can afford to be obstinate and disrespectful in her dealings with a nation so far separated from her as our own. That she has been insolent and insulting towards our government is known and felt by the authorities, and it is high time that at least a respectable show of our national temper should be made. It is a wise policy for our government to pursue to endeavor to maintain peace and friendly relations with all foreign powers, but we submit that it is too hard to receive gross insults and abuse in return for kind and considerate treatment, and especially when coming from a weak and third class kingdom such as Spain.

Spain has frequently grossly insulted our flag, and given cause for complaint if not for actual war. So far back as the first of January, 1869, a Spanish man-of-war seized a tempest tossed and disabled American steamer—the Col. Lloyd Aspinwall—which was within five miles of the coast of Cuba, and made the officers and crew prisoners. For this outrage no explanation was offered nor apology made, the Spaniards simply avering that they had suspicions that the vessel contained munitions of war for the aid of the rebellious Cubans. Notwithstanding the fact that the vessel contained no contraband goods, and that its commanding officer was the bearer of very important dispatches to the United States Government from its representatives abroad, the Spanish authorities kept the vessel, crew and officers under the guns of Morro Castle in the harbor of Havana for over three months. During all this time our authorities were not idle. Their demands for the release of the vessel were trifled with at Madrid and it was only when Secretary Fish became angry and threatened war with Spain, a course in which he was sustained by the Cabinet, that any decent attention was paid to the importunities of Minister Sickles. The vessel was finally released and subsequent indemnification was paid to its owners by the Spanish authorities. Out of this circumstance alone there was enough justification for the declaration of war on the part of the United States. That it was not made was due to the prevailing policy of the country to preserve peace with all mankind.

More recently Spain has broken faith with our Government, and wantonly disregarded its honorable pledges in dealing with our country. The property of our citizens in Cuba has been seized upon and held as confiscated, and although frequent promises have been made by Spain to make full reparation, none has come, and our citizens naturally look to our Government to protect them in their rights. If, indeed, we had no direct cause to war with Spain, her tyranny over the downtrodden people of Cuba would afford pretext enough for the recognition of the belligerency of the island, and to afford it all possible help. The late history of Cuba has been full of horrors and atrocities practiced by the wicked Spaniards. The massacre of playful children by armed volunteers and the hundreds of other wrongs recently perpetrated call for the condemnation of the Spanish from all humane people. If out of the present discussion of the relationship existing between that country and our own war should come about, few will regret the opportunity afforded of chastising an impertinent and dishonorable people.

WE have stated more than once our impression that the re-election of General Grant is probable, because the Democracy are likely to insist that the issue shall be between his election and that of a reactionary Democrat—in which case, of course, we should be for him. The country is heading the right way, and we don't want her turned back.

The Cincinnati *Commercial*, from which we clip the above, is sometimes for Grant's re-nomination, and at other times is against it. As a power among the conservatives of the country, its opinions usually have considerable weight in some quarters, and we publish with pleasure this extract which appears to show its present frame of mind. Next week, probably, we shall give another paragraph from its columns, and ten to one it will be the other way. It appears very difficult for the opponents of the President, to settle on any one plan, and hence they are continually dopping about, very much like a lame duck hunting for a mud puddle. A better illustration of this could not possibly be written, than that furnished by the New York *Tribune* during the last week or two. First it slashed away in its at tempts to lacerate the President because he did not, in its opinion, adopt or encourage "civil service reform;" and after he had proved to the world that he was doing all that lay in his power to secure it, found fault with him still, and strange to relate, because he favored said reforms. Could inconsistency and presumption further go?

The New Cue.

Once there was a little boy, and his name was Chawles, and he was a haughty fellow, and assumed the leadership in the school over certain classes. And another little boy, who had been very brave and diligent, was chosen head moderator of the school. Now the other little boy endeavored, to the best of his ability, to do his duty, but he and Chawles did not agree, and after finding that Chawles would not work with him unless he had his own way in everything, he took the class leadership away from him. This made Chawles furious, and he began at once to bawl and shout: "As you take the leadership from me, I consider all your plans to be either stupid or wicked;" and the naughty little fellow actually appeared to believe that all the world was turned upside down, because he had been spanked.

About that time it became necessary to hold a new election for moderator, and as the other little fellow had done so very well—better than most of the moderators—there was a general desire to elect him again, especially as the school had never flourished as well as it had during his term of office. But this was quite too much for Chawles, who began at once to say, "he showed no respect for my feelings when he thought the good of the school required a change, and so I have no hesitation in saying, of course without any reference to the present incumbent, that no boy ought to be permitted to be moderator twice, especially when he is unable to appreciate me. And, indeed, Thomas and Richard and Henry, who are all dead and gone, and unacquainted with the present state of affairs, thought the same thing, although, to be sure, Thomas was twice moderator himself."

Most of the boys in the school laughed at this and said: "isn't Chawles transparent!" and sensible fathers, outside the school, would point him out to their children and tell them to take warning by him and not permit their self conceit and in ordinate vanity to overcome their self-respect and consciousness of propriety, or they might become a laughing stock too. But there were a few boys in the school who consulted together, and said: "we all want to be moderator ourselves, as long as the other little boy is in the road none of us have any chance, but if he were out of the way, some one would have to be moderator in his place and it might be one of us. Let us therefore unite and join in Chawles' cry, and after it succeeds we can fight among ourselves for the spoils." And they adopted this plan and went about the school shouting aloud that a strict sense of duty compelled them to say it was very wrong to re-elect a moderator, especially just now. But the other boys took a different view of it and said: This other little boy has done so well that we feel convinced no one of us could do better, and so we shall elect him again, and then, after he has been elected and at a time when no one can say that we have any personal grounds in the matter or that we are slighting any one's services, we may take up this one term idea and discuss it. Just now, however, it is in very bad taste and certainly looks like nothing but spite on the part of Chawles, who has not by his previous conduct shown himself to be above such motives. And the other boys, of course had their way, and Chawles, by his proceedings, only rendered himself an object of derision.

Murder of Missionaries in the South Sea Islands.

The mail steamer Moses Taylor, which arrived at San Francisco from Australia on the 3d inst., brings the following exciting news:

On October 31st the astounding intelligence was received in Auckland, New Zealand, of the murder of Bishop Patterson, of the Melanesian Mission, Rev. Mr. Atkins and a native, while on the customary cruise on the missionary schooner Southern Cross, among the South Sea Islands. The circumstances attending the murder will best be given in the words of Captain Jacob, of the missionary schooner:

During Mr. Atkins' stay at Wonga he was speaking to the captain of the Emma Bell, who told him he was going to Santa Cruz for labor. This news made the Bishop very uneasy, as he very well knew that if a vessel went there mischief would result from it. He made up his mind to go to the Reef Islands and ascertain if any vessel had been about. On the 11th of September made Santa Cruz; very light winds. September 20, light winds off Nukapu. About four miles distant saw five or six canoes coming out. When within a mile or two from the vessel they lay-to. We thought it strange they did not come alongside; on former occasions they would have been alongside and have boarded us six or seven miles off the land. The Bishop had the boat lowered and went to them. (This was the last we saw of him alive.) It being low water, the boat could not go over the reef. The Bishop, as it was usual for him to do, got into a canoe and went on shore, accompanied by the two Chiefs, Taula and Motu, the remaining four canoes remaining with the boat. About the time the Bishop would have got on shore, the natives in the canoes attacked the boat, firing several arrows at the crew before they could get the boat out of shot. Mr. Atkins was hit in the back of his shoulder; Stephen, a native of Bouro, had six arrows in him—one in his breast; John, a native of Mota, shot in the side. The boat made for the Bessie, and we got the wounded out of her. Mr. Brooks looking after him. I immediately sent Mr. Bougard (mate) with three of our crew and two black boys, Mr. Atkins acting as pilot (for none of our people knew anything about the place), to see after the Bishop. I told them to keep outside the reef till they were sure they had plenty of water to cross, then pull toward the shore, and keep out of arrow shot, and if they saw the Bishop not to go in. All this time the Bessie was becalmed. Shortly after the boat left the vessel a breeze sprung up, and I worked the vessel close to the boat, so that her presence might intimidate the natives from attacking the boat. We saw the natives put off in two canoes from shore. One of them turned adrift; the other went back to the shore. Presently the boat went toward the drifting canoe, and found the dead body of the Bishop in her, rolled up in a native mat. A small branch of the cocoa-nut palm, with five knots, was stuck in the mat. What the palm with the knots meant, we could not tell. He was stripped of his clothes, his head frightfully smashed and several wounds in the body.

It is quite certain that some vessels has been here ill-using the natives, a very short time previous to our coming, or they never would have killed the Bishop. Every year he called at this place he would give the chiefs and the people presents, and remain a considerable part of the day on shore with them."

A Clerical Resurrectionist.

The grand jury of Gloucester county, N. J., have indicted the Catholic clergyman of the town of Swedesboro', and two other resurrectionists. About six weeks ago a member of the Catholic church died, and was buried in the churchyard in a lot purchased by the widow. Prior to his death deceased had been derelict in his religious duties, and the priest is alleged to have ordered the remains to be removed from the burial ground. This was done at night, by the two men also indicted, and the corpse was buried outside the ground and the grave filled in. A woman passing near by saw them at work, and telling of it, an excitement was created, whereupon a party of the friends of the deceased again dug up the body and replaced it in the original grave. On the following Sunday, such of the party doing this as were members of the Catholic church were expelled by the priest, amid great disorder. The two men who were also indicted pleaded guilty, one of them turning State's evidence. The clergyman is said to contemplate bringing suits for trespass against the persons who replaced the body in the burial ground.—*Newark Evening Courier.*

THE Greensburg *Tribune* says: The Ligonier Valley Railroad don't seem to get along prosperously under ministerial management. It was concluded, by a very decided majority of the stockholders, at a meeting held some time ago, not to prosecute the work any further for the present. At least some of the stockholders lack faith in the principal officers of the road. "A man cannot serve two masters."

Christmas Greenery.

Dressing a house with evergreens is by no means the laborious work many people imagine it. The heavy cumbersome wreaths used in trimming churches are out of place in small rooms where lightness and elegance should be the effects aimed at. In fact there is no need of tying wreaths at all—especially if ground-pine is largely employed in the decoration of a parlor.

The choice varieties of this pretty plant are rare in our woods, but the commoner sort can be found anywhere in the New England and Middle States. If gathered before the snow falls and stored away in a perfectly cool cellar, it will keep fresh for a fortnight or more—in fact until it is wanted. Care should be taken to press it closely into a barrel, and it should be sprinkled lightly with a watering-pot once or twice a week, to prevent dryness.

There is no Christmas green which is more satisfactory than this. The long pliant shoots, tufted with feathery palm, shaped leaves, adapt themselves to every curve and angle. Nothing can be easier to manage—it is but a touch, a twirl, and you have a graceful ornament for cornice-frame, window, or door. Swung from a cord, twined over a chandelier, trained in a light drapery about a picture—the result is delightful and immediate. A couple of pins, or the elastic touch of the stem itself, holds all in place, and five minutes suffice to produce effects which half an hour's laborious "bunching and tying" after the old method would not accomplish.

Then there is no end to the variety which can be secured by mixing this with other evergreens. Laurel boughs, twigs of soft pine, hemlock, *arbor vitæ*, sprays of holly or *Mahonia*, are all susceptible of pretty combination. The evergreen ferns which we can gather in the woods at all times during the winter may be gracefully massed in a bowl or deep vase beneath a picture, as a sort of clasp to a branching frame of light vine-like wreaths of the ground-pine. Autumn leaves roughly pressed in large boughs, and grouped high up on walls behind engravings or above doors, are extremely bright and decorative. Clusters of smaller leaves, with gold and brown ferns, many colored sumachs and delicate creepers—*Linnea Chiogones*, partridge-berry vine, blackberry sprays, or wild strawberry tendrils—make a beautiful finish *below* a bracket or some choice bit of art which the household desires to honor. The shining brown cones of the fir mingle well with evergreens of all sorts—a lichened twig, with its scales of pearly gray and filaments of pale moss, will not come amiss, and perhaps a bird's nest couched on its bough, to which a few yellow leaves still cling. With these materials, skillful fingers to group them together, and here and there, round some specially prized medallion or *peace portrait*, a delicate arabesque of that exquisite climbing fern which has of late come into market as an object for sale, the decorative paraphernalia of the season may be said to be complete.

And then, as

"Christmas loves the lolly crew,
Who gloudy care defy,"

do not forget to add that eye of the room, a blazing fire, which, a venerable authority says, is "the visible heart and soul of Christmas."—*Home and Society, Scribner's for January.*

More Spectral Faces in Window-Panes.

San Francisco, emulous of the fame of some of the smaller cities of Ohio, now reports that it has a weird face on a window-pane, the story being related by the *Bulletin* of the 9th inst., as follows:

"The precise locality of this wonderful house is No. 2,119 Mason street, between Lombard and Chestnut. The house is a small, unpretending two story, and occupied by a French widow named Joergens, whose husband died September, 1870, while on a visit to France. Mme. Joergens states that everything has gone badly with her since her husband's death, as his relatives have been trying to get certain property out of her hands. She states that on Monday some children who had been playing on the street came to her and said there was a man's face on the window of the upper story. She ran up stairs, but could see no face. She then went out in the street, when it was plainly discernible. On the afternoon of Monday Mme. Joergens states she examined the window-pane closely, and at last just to the right of and seemingly beyond the picture first observed, she saw the face and shoulders of another man having the features of her deceased husband. She says that she was loth to believe in the existence of anything supernatural, and, fearing that her eyes might have made the fools of her other senses, she called in several friends who knew her husband when in the flesh, and they substantiated her opinion. This figure remained about three hours, and gradually disappeared, but the other remained. Each day it grew more and more distinct. The face is that of a man in the prime of life, with dark heavy hair and whiskers. The view of the face is a full one; the head is resting on the left shoulder. The expression of the features is one of contemplative sorrow. In it a gentleman yesterday recognized the features of a French real estate agent, now alive and in this city, and mentioned this fact to Mme. Joergens, who immediately stated that the person referred to was a relative of hers. Every effort has been made to obliterate the features, but without success. Ammonia, vinegar, alcohol, soap-suds, lye and every variety of strong, sive matter has been used on the window, but the face is as stubborn as *Banquo's* ghost, and serenely contemplates all efforts to remove it."

LAST SABBATH New York enjoyed a European Sunday. The Internationals had applied for permission to parade the previous Sunday, and it had been refused. A second application was granted. Here were two questions should be kept distinct. The right to parade was not denied. No one thought of denying it. The case cannot, then, be confounded with that of the Orange procession. This first right being admitted, the second question came up whether the parade might take place on Sunday. This was the only question. Shall we on Sunday forbid an open parade, as well as an open grogshop? We think that the government owes something to the quiet and peace of the day, not because it is a holy day, but because it is the day which the people, whether through religion or superstition, wish to hallow. They want the day quiet; and they have a right to have it so. The procession itself was an orderly one, some fifteen hundred men and women marching peacefully enough, while tens of thousands blocked the streets to see them pass. It was a thoroughly European spectacle, and we have had enough of it. We endorse the mayor's proposed bill, that hereafter none but *bona fide* funeral processions be allowed, and that no band of music accompanying them shall play within one block of any church holding service. During the war our City Council refused to receive a regiment of veteran soldiers on Sunday, and we are sorry that the precedent should have been violated in this case.—*N. Y. Independent.*

THE Swiss Federal Assembly have put articles and particles under the bann of the Republic. "*De*," "*de la*," "*du*," "*des*," and all other indications of rank, as well as titles preceeding them, are to be rejected in official acts. "*Von*," we suppose, will meet with the same fate, in the case of officials from the German cantons. We trust none of the citizens will be so entirely stripped of their designations as the nobleman of the story which tells of his name being demanded by a sentinel on the frontier of France, during the Revolution. "Monsieur le Marquis de Saint Cyr," was the reply. "Citizen, there are no more Monsieurs." "Le Marquis de Saint Cyr, then." Citizen, there are no more Marquises." "Saint Cyr, then." "Citizen, there are no more Saints." "Well, then, Cyr, and be hanged to you!" "Citizen, we have no more *Sires!*" So the poor man had not a name left to his back. A more sensible prohibition is that forbidding its functionaries to receive any pension, present, or decoration from foreign princes. Considering how many princes are ready to swallow the little republic, it is quite right in objecting to its being lubricated by way of preparation.

THE *Independent* says: We cannot say, as some of our papers have said, that Mr. George Wilkes' opposition to President Grant is due to the fact that the latter refused to give him the appointment of Minister to Mexico, and afterward to Spain, which he craved, even though, in the case of the man Dana, who lies through the *Sun*, we have an undoubted example of the dog that fawned and bit when he was kicked. But this is certain, that General Grant deserves the gratitude of the decent public for not putting into prominent public service the editor of the organ of cock-fighters and pugilists.

A COLUMBIA (S. C.) dispatch to the Charleston *News*, of Saturday, says: In the House, to-day, C. C. Bowen presented his credentials as a representative from the county of Charleston. His right to a seat was contested on the grounds of irregularity in issuing the writ for the election, and because he had been convicted of an infamous crieme. He was finally admitted by a vote of 73 to 22. Bowen then made a speech, charging the administration with stealing several million dollars, and promising to hold them to the strictest accountability."

THE New Jersey Central Railroad Company are pushing forward the new railroad from Elizabeth to Newark, and expect to have it in running order next spring. It will enable the company to keep in communication with New York beyond probability of interruption by any accident to the bridge, and also give another one to Newark. The line for the new road to Perth Amboy has been determined, and is being laid out. It will cross the Central Road near Elizabethport.

A NEW YORK paper says that a foupish young dandy, who had just returned from abroad, appeared at a ball last week, elegantly attired in full dress suit, with diamond studs and sleeve buttons, point lace necktie, three buttoned gloves, hair powdered with blonde powder, French heels to his boots, a strong suspicion of rouge on his cheeks, and a piece of court plaster on his forehead. The ladies laughed at him so heartily that he left before supper time.

THE schooner Hutchinson, from Alaska has arrived at San Francisco, bringing three ship-wrecked Japanese seamen, whose junk drifted ashore. Their vessel was disabled off the coast of Japan, and drifted two thousand five hundred miles in nine months, (?) finally beaching on Alaska. Twenty-three of the crew had starved to death on board. The three rescued men will be sent back to Japan.

COMMENDABLE CAUTION.

The storms and changes of winter have set in in earnest. To-day the thermometer may be down to zero and to-morrow forty degreas above; the shocks to the human body, under such vicissitudes of climate are full of perils; the humors are driven upon the interna' organs, and the weak organs are the first to suffar. Now comes the chill, the cough, the spitting of blood and pains in the breast, the baleful harbingers of a terrible disease. Stop reader and think! Dr. Keyser's Lung Cure is as sure to arrest such diseases and nip them in their bud as water will extinguish fire. Dr. Keyser's Lung Cure will remove the obstruction; carry off the over-abundant humors which impede and obstruct the channels which perform the work of life; it will allay irritation at once. The cough will be removed; the chilliness will cease; the animal functions will go on with their accustomed regularity. If consumption has already set in, do not wait another day. Dr. Keyser's Lung Cure still has power to cure you and render your life hopeful and happy. Sold at the Drs. Medical Store, 167 Liberty street, $1.50 per bottle or 4 for $5.00.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

The best assortment in the city at Jas. E. Burns & Co.'s. Remember the place—corner of Penn and St. Clair streets, have, without exaggeration, the finest, best and most complete assortment of Toilet Articles in the city, such as Toilet Sets, Perfume Cases, Imported Cologones, Lubin's Perfumes, Rimmel's Perfumes and Cou de Ays, of every description. Also, Puff Boxes of every style. Persons wishing to purchase Holiday presents should call and examine the large and splendid assortment before purchasing elsewhere. Remember the place where you can purchase anything in this line cheaper than elsewhere in the city is at

JAMES E. BURNS & CO.'S
Drug Store and Family Medicine Depot,
Corner of Penn and Sixth (old St. Clair) streets.

PERIL AND PRECAUTION.

This is the season that tries the frame and the constitution. If there be a weak spot in either, the chilling dumps, the malarious fogs, the varieties of temperature that mark the commencement of the winter season are sure to find it out. There are few systems that have not a weak spot somewhere, and the wisest thing that any man or woman can do is to fortify it by a course of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, and thus keep the enemy at bay. In war, when a city is menaced the first thing to be done is to strengthen the ramparts. The same policy should be adopted with the human body, when its direst foe, malaria is abroad. If the stomach is weak, this tonic will lend it vigor; if the bowels are morbidly sensitive, this alterative will regulate them; if the liver is inert, this wholesome stimulant will rouse it; if there is constipation, this aperient will cure it; if there is nervous debility, this nervine will replace it with nervous vigor; if there is impurity in the blood, this depurent will neutralize it; if there is a cloud on the spirits, this exhilarant will dispel it. These are facts that have been demonstrated every day for the last twenty years. Can as much be said for any other medicine—or rather, can as much be proved? for anything may be said by the unscrupulous. Do not accept any of the local bitters sometimes recommended by dealers in lieu of the Standard Restorative.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

FABER & VAN DOREN,

367 Liberty Street,
PITTSBURGH, PA.

STEAM ENGINES,
IRON AND WOOD WORKING
MACHINERY,
Steam Pumps,
Engineers' and Machinists' Tools,
STEAM FIRE ENGINES,
BELTING,
Woolen Machinery, Machine Cards.

Manufacturers' and Mill Supplies. A constant supply on hand and furnished on short notice.

ORDERS SOLICITED.

Furs, Furs, Furs!

M'CORD & CO.,

131 Wood Street,
PITTSBURGH, PA.

Respectfully call the attention of their customers and the public to their very extensive stock of Ladies, Misses and Children's FURS, embracing every quality and style.

Elegant Seal Skin Sacques,
Elegant Astrachan Sacques,
Elegant Hudson Bay Sable Sets,
Elegant Mink Sable Sets,
Elegant Seal Skin Sets,
Elegant Royal Ermine Sets,
Elegant Black Martin Sets.

Fitch, Squirrel, Alaska, etc., and all the grades of FURS manufactured.

Our Goods are the Very Best, and we guarantee to sell at New York and Philadelphia prices. ROBES, of all kinds. FURS, GLOVES, GAUNTLETS and MUFFLERS in great variety.

no10:b75-MWF

NEW STORE.

D. P. WORK,

No. 91 Smithfield St.,
(HOWARD'S BLOCK.)

Invites attention to his elegant assortment of

Books for the Holidays,

Comprising Illustrated, Standard and Miscellaneous Books in great variety. Large assortment of

NEW JUVENILES,
ENGLISH TOY BOOKS,
GAMES, PICTURES, PUZZLES,
WRITING DESKS,
BACKGAMMON BOARDS,
POCKET BOOKS and
DIARIES FOR 1872.

A handsome Line of Ladies' Fine Stationery. New styles French and Colored Papers.

D. P. WORK,

91 SMITHFIELD STREET,

HOWARD'S NEW BLOCK, A FEW DOORS BELOW FIFTH AVENUE. de21

A Christmas Dinner

WILL NOT BE

COMPLETE WITHOUT

Maltby's Canned Oysters,
Wright's Minced Meat,
Winslow's Cream Corn,
Cross & Blackwell's Pickles,
Sackett's Cranberries,
Hucken's Table Soups,
Windsor Mango Pickles,
Peak, Frean & Co.'s London Crackers
Dehesa Raisins,
Shaker Dried Corn,
English Stilton Cheese.

All of which can be found, with a full assortment of Fancy Groceries, at

JNO. A. RENSHAW & CO.'S,
LOW PRICE GROCERY,
de22:b40 Corner Liberty and Ninth streets.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

GRAND CLEARANCE AND HOLIDAY SALE,

AT

Penn Avenue Stores,

Joseph Horne & Co.

FRESH AND CHOICE GOODS.

RARE BARGAINS

In Every Department.

Many Goods at Less Than Importers' Prices.

We would invite particular notice to our line of

HANDKERCHIEFS

Which for extent, variety and low price for quality, has not been equaled by any of our former sales.

Ladies' Hemmed and Hemstitched, Ladies' Embroidered, Initial, Sheer Lawn and Mourning Handkerchiefs, in every quality, running from 5 cents to $3 25 each.

All-Linen Hemstitched at 9 cents.

Extra Fine Quality at $3 per dozen.

Initial Handkerchiefs in Fancy Boxes, one-half dozen each, all letters.

In Real Lace Handkerchiefs we have just opened an extra fine assortment. Points Gauze, Appique Duchess, Honiton, Valenciennes and Imitation Val. and Duchess Lace Handkerchiefs from 25 cents and upward.

Children's Handkerchiefs,

A Large Assortment in every quality.

The Largest and Finest selection of

Rich Real Lace Goods,

TO BE HAD ANYWHERE,

CONSISTING OF

Laces, Flouncings, Edgings,
New Shapes Collars and Collarettes,
Berthas, Barbes, Fan Covers,
Lama Lace Points, and one

Applique Polonaise Robe,

With Over Dress and Court Train Complete.

EXTRA GOOD BARGAINS IN

IMITATION LACE, COLLARS, COLLARETTES AND SETTS,

At 25 Cents and Up.

LINEN SETTS,

In Single Boxes, Lace Trimmed, Embroidered and Braided. We offer an unsurpassed line of these Goods at 63 cents and upward.

Lace Tidies, Stand Covers,
Wall Screens, Lamp Mats,
Infants' Lace and Embr'd Caps,
Robes and Waists,
Damask and Huck Towels.
Napkins, Doilies and
Damask Table Linens.

Full Size Damask Towels

AT $3 PER DOZEN—VERY CHEAP.

KID GLOVES

Best Bargains of the Season.

60 Doz. Two-Button, at $1 per pair

50 Doz. Real Kid, at $1 25 per pair

Cloth, Berlin and Fur Top Gloves,

For Ladies' and Children in Great Variety.

Ladies' Underwear,

IN MUSLIN, CAMBRIC, LINEN & MERINO.

DRAWERS AND VESTS

EVERY QUALITY.

Chemise Night Dresses, Drawers, Skirts, Dressing Sacques,
Lace Trimmed and Embroidered Bridal Sets,

All at Very Low Prices.

White and Colored Merino Skirts, at $1.00.

FELT SKIRTS.

Stamped, Embossed, Braided and Velvet Trimmed.

HOSIERY.

Plain and Fancy, every grade, style and quality, for Ladies, Misses and Children at reduced figures.

Slipper Patterns,
Ottoman Covers,
Chair Strips, &c.

Ladies' Scarfs and Ties.

Now open, the most complete assortment of Scarfs and Tidies, in the city.

Fringe and Silk Scarfs at 50c., all colors.

Gros Grain and Taffeta Ribbons.

ALL THE NEW SHADES.

FEATHERS.

Ostrich Plumes, Tips,
Fancy Feathers, Aigrettes, &c.

LADIES' CLOAKS AND SACQUES.

The Latest London and Paris Novelties of Velvet and Cloth Cloaks, Embroidered and Braided House Jackets, will be sold at cost to close the season.

We would also call attention to and invite an examination of our stock of

Black Dress Silks.

A new assortments of Bonnet, Tellilards, the Golden Wheel, and other approved makes, ranging in price from $1 25 to $7.50 per yard.

NOVELTIES.

In Ladies' Fine Shell and Pearl Portmonnaies.
Real Russia Leather Portmonnaies and Satchels.
Fancy Brushes,
Jet and Shell Jewelry,
Fine Carved and Spangled Pearl and Ivory Fans, very handsome for a Christmas Present.

GENTLEMEN'S

Furnishing Department.

Velveteen and Cloth House and Smoking Jackets, Robes de Chambre, Cardigan Jackets.
Kid, Dog Skin, Buck, Calf and Castor Plush Lined and Plain Gloves.
Fancy Scarfs, Ties, Cravats, Fancy Mufflers.
Cashmere, Merino and Shaker Half Hose.
Underwear, White, Clouded and Scarlet, every grade, in great variety.

SILK UMBRELLAS.

All at Very Lowest Prices.

Strangers and Customers are respectfully invited to call and examine.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

AT

WM. SEMPLE'S.

Special Bargains in

Ladies' and Childrens' Furs.

AT $1.50

LADIES SQUIRREL CAPES,

A GREAT BARGAIN.

AT 60 CENTS.

ALL WOOL SHOULDER SHAWLS.

Large Size, a Decided Bargain.

AT $1.00.

Balmoral Skirts,

Full Size, Extra Heavy.

AT $1.50.

All Wool Felt Skirts,

Printed Borders—An Extra Bargain.

AT $2 00.

FINE FELT SKIRTS,

Velvet Trimmed—A Great Bargain.

AT

WM. SEMPLE'S,

165, 167 and 169 Federal Street,

ALLEGHENY.

CLEARING OUT SALE

AT

Auction Prices.

MOORHOUSE & CARSTEN,

Will offer, from and after this day, the balance of their stock of

Autumn and Winter

DRESS GOODS, &c.

At Prices to meet the wants of the Popular Trade.

Black Alpacas,	Velvet Cloaks,
Pure Mohairs,	Velveteen Cloaks,
Henrietta Cloth,	Braided do.,
Cashmeres,	Talmas, Talmas,
Merinos,	Ottoman Shawls.

They also offer at reduced prices the entire stock of Velvets, Black Silks, Velveteens, Wool Shawls, Blankets, Flannels, Cloths, Cassimeres; in fact all stock distinctively

AUTUMN AND WINTER GOODS,

It being their determination that prices shall be made, having in view an immediate clearing out of every lot.

Orders promptly attended to.

Moorhouse & Carsten,

21 FIFTH AVENUE.

de4 PITTSBURGH, PA.

Gildenfenney & Hess,

Booksellers and Stationers,

NO. 45 FIFTH AVENUE.

We take pleasure in informing the trade and public generally that we have recently remodeled our Store and increased our facilities, in order to meet the demands made upon us. We are now offering the largest stock and varied assortment of Books, Periodicals and other Goods suitable for Christmas presents, to be found in the city, consisting in part of

New and Novel Writing Desks,

BACKGAMMON BOARDS,

Chess Men and Games

of every description. Also a splendid assortment of AMERICAN and ENGLISH JUVENILE BOOKS, and the finest line of POCKET BOOKS west of Philadelphia. Our stock of

Family Bibles,
Prayer Books,
Hymn Books and
Photographic Albums,

is large and complete.

We would call the attention of the Ladies in particular to our Imported Initial Note Paper and Envelopes, which we offer at astonishing low prices.

Give us a call and inspect the immense variety that we are presenting to the Holiday Trade.

GILDENFENNEY & HESS,

NO. 45 FIFTH AVENUE.

CLOSING OUT SALE

OF

BOOTS AND SHOES,

AT

F. A. KONOLD & CO.,

19 Fifth Avenue.

This entire stock must be closed out by the first of January. de24

NEW ORLEANS SUGAR.

New Crop Good and Prime New Orleans Sugar,

FIRST OF THE SEASON,

JUST RECEIVED BY

WATT, LANG & CO.,

Nos. 172 and 174 Wood Street.

de11:

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

LOWEST PRICES

AT

WM. SEMPLE'S.

SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS OFFERED IN

DRESS GOODS

Of All Kinds.

At 10c., all the best Prints.
At 6¼ and 8½c., Good Fast Colored Prints.
At 25c., Unbleached Table Diaper.
At 25c., Fine French Chintzes, worth 37½c.
At 25c., Good Dark Plaid Poplins.
At 25c., Fine Striped Poplins, an extra bargain.
At 37½c., Satine Cloths, seasonable colors.
At 60c., Japanese Silks, good styles.
At 90c., Waterproof Cloths, extra good for the price.

Extra Bargains in all Kinds of

SHAWLS,
SCARFS and
SACQUES,

Wholesale and Retail,

AT

WM. SEMPLE'S,

165, 167 and 169 Federal Street,

ALLEGHENY.

GRATES.

L. H. SMITH & CO.,

MANUFACTURERS OF THE

WELLMAN PATENT

Reflector Stoves

AND

GRATES,

KELLY'S PATENT

IRON HEARTH,

The Anchor Sad Iron,

FIRE IRON STANDS, &C.

The Reflector Is the best and Cleanest Grate in existence. It consumes less fuel and produces more heat than any other. We challenge a trial.

The Iron Hearth Will be found more desirable and cheaper than either Marble or Brick.

THE GREAT REPUTATION OF THE

Anchor Sad Iron Has induced unprincipled parties to adopt our style with the intention of deceiving the public. We caution our customers and the public generally against this fraud.

Our Irons are all PLANED and bear the ANCHOR (our Trade Mark) on the upper side.

Samples of the Grates may be seen at BARNES', corner Third avenue and Market street, GOODWIN'S, 66 Federal street, Allegheny, or at the

WEST POINT FOUNDRY,

Cor. Duquesne Way and Water Street,

se23:d81 PITTSBURGH.

FREE EXCURSION

AND

Sale of Houses

AT

HOMESTEAD

ON

New Year's Day.

THE HOMESTEAD BANK AND LIFE INSURANCE CO. will sell at Auction on the premises on

Monday, Jan. 1, 1872,

The following very desirable Property:

1 NEW FRAME HOUSE OF 3 ROOMS AND LOT No. 400.60 FEET FRONT, 150 FEET DEEP.
1 HOUSE 4 ROOMS, AND LOT 433. 60x110 FEET.
1 HOUSE 5 ROOMS, AND LOT 135, 60x110 FEET.
1 HOUSE 6 ROOMS AND CORNER 173 55x80 FEET.
1 HOUSE 6 ROOMS, AND LOT 191. 60x110 FEET.
1 HOUSE 6 ROOMS, AND LOT 144. 60x110 FEET.

TERMS—10 years' Rent, payable quarterly, in advance.

The purchaser taking a lease for one year, with the Company's agreement to execute the title when one year's rent is paid, according to contract, and the balance secured by close bond and mortgage.

A Policy of Fire Insurance, and (to the purchaser is of approved age, health and habits) a Life Insurance covering his current indebtedness (not over due) will be maintained at the cost of the Company.

N. B.—A few choice Building Sites may be had at Auction Prices.

A FREE TRAIN

Will leave Connellsville Depot at 9 A. M., returning at 1½ P. M. de18:g100-8

NEW

FALL GOODS,

AT

Macrum & Carlisle's,

27 FIFTH AVENUE.

New Embroideries and Laces,
New Gimps and Fringes,
Hosiery and Gloves,
New Shell and French Jewelry,
Ribbons, Scarfs and Sashes,
Zephyr Wool and Slipper Patterns,
Gents' Fine Shirts, Collars & Bows,
Undershirts and Drawers, complete line.

EVERYTHING

At Lowest Prices.

se26-MWF

HOLIDAYSBURG (PA.) SEMINARY.

REV. JOSEPH H. WAUGH, Principal.

Special advantages: *No coal smoke nor oil lamps;* Philosophical and Chemical Apparatus; proximity to various Churches; Gymnasium, ample Grounds beautiful Scenery; Pure Mountain Water. Music under Prof. Lippert. no27:g80

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

FANCY GOODS,

For the Holidays,

AT VERY LOW PRICES

AT

WM. SEMPLE'S.

A COMPLETE STOCK OF

Millinery Goods,

Sash Ribbons.
Neck and Bow Ribbons.
Lace Collars and Handkerchiefs.
Gents' Linen and Fancy Silk Handkerchiefs.

HOODS AND NUBIAS,

Ladies' and Gents' Underwear.
Gents' and Boys' Comforters.
Gents' Neck Ties, Collars and Cuffs.
All kinds of Hosiery and Gloves.

AT THE LOWEST PRICES.

FLANNELS,

Cassimeres, Water

FINANCIAL.

IRA B. McVAY & CO., BANKERS.

We offer for sale the following desirable securities:

City of Pittsburgh Water Loan and Penn Avenue Bonds,

Bearing 7 per cent. interest at par and accrued interest.

PITTSBURGH & CONNELLSVILLE SIX PER CENT. BONDS,

DUE IN 1887. First Mortgage on Turtle Creek Division, at 86 and Accrued Interest.

IRA B. McVAY & CO.,

COR. FOURTH AVE. AND SMITHFIELD ST.

N. Holmes & Sons, BANKERS.

We offer for sale a limited amount of the new Bonds of the

Allegheny Valley Railroad Company,

bearing 7 per cent. interest, FREE OF ALL TAXATION. Principal and interest guaranteed by the

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY.

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES received in exchange at Market Rates.

N. HOLMES & SONS,

57 Market Street, Pittsburgh.

no2[illegible]

GEO. B. HILL & CO., BROKERS AND DEALERS IN

Bonds, Stocks and Mortgages.

Orders promptly executed for the purchase and sale of all Reliable Securities.

Collection made.

COR. THIRD AVE. AND WOOD ST.,

an9 PITTSBURGH, PA.

Jas. T. Brady & Co., (SUCCESSOR TO S. JONES & CO.,)

Buy and sell all kinds of

Government Securities, COIN, SILVER AND COUPONS

On Most Favorable Terms.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.

Money loaned on Government Bonds at low, [illegible] market rates.

Orders executed for the Purchase and Sale of Stocks, Bonds and Gold.

JAMES T. BRADY & CO.

Finance and Trade,

NEW YORK, December 24, 1871.

Gold opened weak at 108¾, sold up to 108¾, and closed at 108⅜@108¾. Loans were made at 6 per cent. for carrying. The clearances were $46,000,000.

The weekly bank statement shows the following changes:

Loans, decrease	$11,796,700
Specie, decrease	2,986,300
Circulation, decrease	458,200
Deposits, decrease	18,844,600
Legal tenders, decrease	3,314,600

The bank statement in an unfavorable exhibit. An analysis of the figures shows that the banks have made a net loss of $1,500,200 in their legal tenders, and $3,923,400 in the 25 per cent. required by law. The large loss in legal tenders is the natural result of the sudden withdrawal of this amount, but a decrease in specie was not expected.

Money was firm at 7 per cent. Government bonds and stocks were dull. Stocks opened very strong in prices. Before and after the call there were numerous transactions in active leading stocks at advancing prices. There was but little business transacted on call, for it was taken with the Christmas holidays in view. After the bank statement was made known the market declined about ¾ per cent. and closed quite strong, but very dull. An advance to-day was most marked in Rock Island, Wabash and Pacific Mail.

Sterling exchange 109@[illegible].

GOVERNMENTS.—Coupons 1881, 117¾; 5-20s of 1862, 113½@113¾; do 1864, 111¾; do new 5s, 107½; 10-40s, 108; 6s, 103; 6s, 113; 10 40s, 109¾; currency 6's, 114¾.

STATE BONDS.—Mississippi, 97; Tennessee, 68; Virginia 6s, old 56; do new 62; do new 10s, 70; North Carolina, old 34; new 12.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Western Union Telegraph, 83¾; Adams Excress, 90¾; Wells-Fargo do, 55½; American Merchants Union do, 59½; United States do, 65; Pacific Mail, 34; New York Central, 94¾; Scrip, 88¾; Erie, 32½; do preferred, 65; Hudson, 105; Reading, 100; Pittsburg, 110; Michigan Central, 118; Cleveland and Pittsburgh, 127¾; Northwestern, 64¾; do preferred 89; Rock Island, 106¾; Illinois Central, 138; St Paul, 54; do preferred, 77; Wabash, 63¾; do preferred, 82; Fort Wayne, 96; Terre Haute, 16; do preferred, 47; Chicago and Alton, 116; do preferred, 118; Ohio and Mississippi, 44¾; Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati, 87; Burlington and Quincy, 125; Lake Shore, 91½; Panama, 19; Illinois Central, 130; Union Pacific, 38½; Central Pacific bonds, 103; Union, 92.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE, SATURDAY, December 23, 1871.

Closing quotations as received by James T. Brady & Co:

Gold	108¾	5-20 Jan. & Jy.'65	113½
U. S. 6s, 1881	117¾	5-20 Jan. & Jy.'67	115¾
U. S. 5-20s '62	109¾	5-20 Jan. & Jy.'68	115¾
U. S. 5-20s '64	109¾	10-40s	109¾
U. S. 5-20s '65	109¾	C. P. R. R.	109¾
U. S. 10-40s	109¾	Cy. Pacifics	[illegible]

—The Secretary of the Treasury, by notice dated yesterday, has called in all the bonds issued on March 20, 1862, another $20,000,000 of 5-20s, of which $16,000,000 are coupon and $4,000,000 registered bonds. These issues, like those called to be redeemed in March next, the first $20,000,000 on March 5th. He has also given notice that the first $50,000,000 so called are to be paid par and interest up to date of payment, on presentation on and after to-day. Few will be found disposed to avail of this while a consideration has to be paid for carrying gold. Even if gold should tend "that," it would be better for these buyers for this particular use to buy them, and draw their 6 per cent. gold interest, rather than to present them and get gold which would pay no interest. It is estimated that five-sixths of the $22,000,000 coupon issues called are held abroad, so that the Secretary's offer is not likely to be accepted to any considerable extent. The money market continues stringent and borrowers on call offering stock collateral have paid 7 gold per annum to 1-16 of 1 per cent. per day, and 7 has been the ruling rate. The leading government bond dealers quote rates as ⅛@¼ gold. Commercial paper is dull, and the best indorsed is quoted at 9@12 per cent. with few sales under 10 per cent.—*New York Bulletin, 22nd.*

—The Fourth National Bank of Philadelphia is reported to have made a call on the Girard House in that city this morning. This bank capital not over $250,000 was forced into suspension two or three years ago by the ring, we believe. It resumed business, and has of late been a correspondent of the Ocean Bank of this city. Among the failures on the books of the Ocean Bank, found at the time of its suspension last week, was an item, dated November 5, 1871, of a special loan to the Fourth National of Philadelphia, $50,000. All that represented this sum was an envelope, indorsed "Special." Not to be detained, the State Clearing House Committee added the further remark, "No security." It seems likely that the Ocean Bank will be found on the boards

SECOND EDITION.

FOUR O'CLOCK.

NEW YORK.

Connolly's Case.

"TRIBUNE" THREATENED

New City Charter.

BONDS AUTHORIZED.

Terrific Explosion.

NEW YORK, December 23, 1871.

CONNOLLY'S BONDSMEN.

Connolly's bondsmen have been qualified in the sum of one million dollars, as required in the civil suit, but as Judge Bedford does not make known whether he will accept bail for the ex-Controller under fifteen criminal indictments against him, it is probable that Connolly will spend his Christmas in Ludlow street jail.

CONNOLLY'S CASE.

Connolly's counsel took no steps to-day to secure the release of their client. They represent that it is more advisable to have the ex-Comptroller remain in Ludlow street jail than to be immured in the Tombs, which would be the result if Judge Bedford committed him without bail under the pending indictments.

NEW CITY CHARTER.

The Committee of Seventy have perfected a new charter for this city, to be presented for action to the next legislature. It provides for the corporate powers of the city being vested in the Mayor, Aldermen and commonalty, the Aldermen to be elected in April, forty-five in number, nine being elected annually in each Senatorial district. Provisions are made that the board shall not vote public moneys to any charitable institutions unless recommended by heads of charitable departments, and then only by a two-thirds vote; an abstract of the doings of the Aldermen to be published in a paper, to be known as the "City Record," instead of advertising the proceedings in detail, as at present; no money to be drawn from the city treasury unless voted by the board. The other sections provide for vesting powers in the Board of [Aldermen now exercised by the several Commissions. The entire executive powers are vested in the Mayor and heads of departments, who are appointed by the Mayor; the Mayor to give a financial statement of the city to the Aldermen. The Mayor's salary to be fifteen thousand dollars, and the Aldermen's two thousand. The Mayor may be removed by the Governor. The departments will comprise Public Works, Public Parks, Docks, Charities and Correction, Finance, Law, Instruction, Police, Health, Fire and Sinking Fund Commission. All departments shall keep a record of their proceedings, always accessible to the public. One member of each of the different departments is to be appointed by the Mayor, annually, to be five in number of each department, the other four to be elected by the Board of Aldermen. This provision establishing the Department of Finance provides for a public monthly financial statement, and all books, vouchers, &c., to be opened to the inspection of any member of the Fire Commission; all city bonds to be signed by Mayor, Controller and two members of the Finance Commission; the books of the commission to be open at all times to tax payers. The office of City Chamberlain is abolished. All commissioners appointed by the Mayor are removable by him at any time; commissioners appointed by the Aldermen are removable only by the board; the corporation attorney to be a resident of the city two years prior to his appointment by the Mayor. Provisions are made prohibiting the Mayor, Aldermen, and heads of departments or commissioners, or any clerks, from being interested in any city contracts, under forfeiture of office. Provisions for punishment are provided. No city officer to hold a Federal, State or other city office. Quite a number of sections are left to be arranged by the Legislature, as is also the legislating out of office of the present incumbents. Any officer from Alderman to Mayor can be called to the bar of impeachment by any judge in regard to his disposition of public moneys.

THE RING.

There were no new developments to-day in connection with the ring troubles.

The rumor that Cornelius Corson has fled is generally credited.

It is not probable that Tweed will resign either the office of Commissioner of the Parks Department or Tammany Hall General Sachem. His friends say that he will remain to the last, and he will profit by the example of Connolly, who will be known into prison on his retirement from office.

EXPOSURE OF CORRUPTION.

The *Tribune* says it is understood that Judge Ingraham has hitherto urged his judicial brethren in demanding a grand jury indictment against that paper for its exposure of judicial corruption; but that effort has failed; also, that Fisk had attempted to institute proceedings against the paper for seeking to defame Fisk's character, but no warrants have yet been served upon it.

HALL'S CASE.

It is understood that the Grand Jury have not indicted Mayor Hall, but Counsellor O'Connor told them that his offence, if any, does not come under the statutes which the other gentlemen of the ring have been proceeded against. The Oyer and Terminer Grand Jury, however, will probably investigate the case of the Mayor next week.

THE THIEVES FLYING.

It is rumored, says the *Tribune*, that Sweeny's going to Canada is due to his Fisk connection. It was reported last night that Cornelius Carson, a ring man, and Secretary of the New York Printing Company and Commissioner of the Brooklyn Bridge, fled, to escape the result of charges brought before the Grand Jury.

NEW COURT HOUSE.

The new Court House Commissioners have informally agreed upon a plan for the dome of the building, at a cost of one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars, but nothing can be done until the legislative appropriation of the fund is made.

BONDS AUTHORIZED.

The Board of Apportionment this afternoon authorized the Comptroller to issue bonds to the amount of six hundred thousand dollars to meet the requisitions of the Parks Department, and four hundred and fifty thousand New York Bridge bonds.

RELIEF.

The Chamber of Commerce has received additional subscriptions for the relief of the West, amounting to forty-five thousand dollars. The total receipts amount to $1,005,343 83.

ASSISTANT ALDERMEN SWORN IN.

The Assistant Aldermen elected in November last took their official oaths this morning. But the Mayor declined to file them, referring the members to the legal tribunals.

CHRISTMAS FOR THE POOR.

Some ten or a dozen of the prominent charitable institutions of the city will provide liberal entertainments for their inmates on Christmas day.

NOT ONE OF THE RING.

Judge McCunn, in a communication, says it is unjust to charge him "with being a Ring Judge, as he has been battling the Ring for years.

MONEY FOR PARKS DEPARTMENT.

Comptroller Green to-day deposited $50 000 to the credit of the Department of Public Parks for the payment of employes.

SINECURES REMOVED.

Several sinecure clerks in the Finance Department and worthless attendants of the Supreme Court were removed to-day.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24, 1871.

TERRIFIC EXPLOSION.

About six o'clock last evening a gunfying house attached to the Metropolitan Gas Company's works on Forty-second street, between Eleventh and Twelfth avenues, exploded with a tremendous concussion. The building was demolished and the ruins were immediately afterward discovered to be on fire. The flames were extinguished without any damage resulting to any other department of the works. The cause of the explosion was gas escaping in the purifying department and igniting in a body. The concussion was terrible. Windows were smashed by scores in the tenement houses near the block. The noise of the explosion was like that supposed to be made by an earthquake. No one was injured except Patrick McGrath, a watchman, and he seriously. A frightful calamity was avoided by the presence of mind of one of the employes of the company, in shutting off the gas that leading to the mains, thus cut off the gas from the houses. But for this precaution there might have been gas explosions all over the district. The escape of the workmen employed in this branch of the works was due to a very fortunate circumstance. A few days ago an alteration was made in their hours of labor, so that they were enabled to knock off at 5:30 P. M., instead of 6. Had the old rule as to hours been in force, hundreds of lives might have been sacrificed. From Thirty-fourth street to Fifth and Sixth streets on the west side, and to Fifty-seventh street in the east, and Sixty-fifth in another portion of the east side, the streets and stores were left in total darkness. This state of affairs will probably last a week. Loss $100,000; insured.

MURDER.

Thomas Larkin, a conductor on the Third Avenue Railroad, was murdered last night by Robert Hallinan, a discharged driver, with a car hook. Hallinan escaped.

BROOKLYN CITY CHARTER.

The Brooklyn Reform Committee has agreed that the proposed new city charter shall provide for one Board of Aldermen of nine members.

BROOKLYN CITY BONDS DESTROYED.

One million dollars' worth of unsold bonds of the city of Brooklyn were destroyed yesterday, on account of the coupons bearing the signature of the retiring comptroller.

ARRIVED.

The steamers St. Laurent, from Havre, and Hansa, from Southampton *via* St. Johns, N. F., have arrived.

UNION SQUARE BANK.

The receiver of the Union Square Bank reports assets sufficient to pay all liabilities and leave $42,000 for the shareholders.

TWEED'S BONDSMEN.

The sheriff has been notified by Tweed's attorney that the original or new bondsmen will justify on Tuesday.

PERSONAL.

It appears that Carson, Chief of the Bureau of Elections, is spending the holidays at his residence in Westchester county.

NEW COUNTERFEITS.

New counterfeit fifty cent currency has appeared in Newark.

BUFFALO.

Alexis.

BUFFALO, N. Y., December 24.—The Grand Duke and suite attended the choral festival at the North Presbyterian church this afternoon, which was participated in by five hundred children.

Cataeacy left the royal party here, and has gone to Washington, where he will join his family.

WIND STORM.

A heavy gale visited this place last night, doing considerable damage to buildings, &c. It was the strongest gale experienced here for years.

THE CAPITAL.

WASHINGTON, December 23, 1871.

CASE DISMISSED.

Judge Wiley, in the Equity Court, in the case of L. P. Child against Nicholas P. Trist, sustained the demurrer and dismissed the bill. The question was whether the court would enforce a contract for a contingent fee for services rendered in procuring the passage of an act of Congress. Trist sought to obtain a fee from Child under these circumstances.

WASHINGTON, December 24, 1871.

THE WEATHER TO-DAY.

A small area of cloud and possibly rain will probably advance from the south Atlantic coast northeastward on Monday, and a falling barometer with partially cloudy weather and a rising temperature from New England westward to Michigan; southerly winds prevail very generally east of the Mississippi, veering to the west, and northwest from Michigan and Missouri to Minnesota, with cloud and snow in the latter state; the lowest barometer move northeast over Lake Huron. Dangerous winds are not anticipated for to-night.

OPINION IN LEGAL TENDER CASES.

The full opinion of the United States Supreme Court in the legal tender cases will be delivered on the 18th of January. Those who will unite in the majority are Justices Davis, Strong, Miller, Swayne and Bradley, and those in the minority are Chief Justice Chase and Associate Justices Clifford, Field and Nelson. In addition to the majority and minority reports given, it is expected that several of the Judges will express their opinions on the different branches of the question.

BAD FAITH.

Official advices show that Minister Bassett has remonstrated with the Haytien Government against its want of good faith shown in the observance of neutrality in the domestic strife in San Domingo. The last first of February, Secretary Fish declared that the Government takes a lively interest in the independence of San Domingo, and does nothing to lessen this discord there. Mr. Bassett does not, however, believe in the sincerity of the Haytien Government.

TREASURY INVESTIGATION.

The investigation into all the affairs of the Treasury Department by the Congressional Committee, on its expenditures, will be resumed immediately after the holidays.

OUR WASHINTON LETTER.

[From our own Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22, 1871.

The charge that some near to the President was engaged in the Fisk and Gould stock gambling operations is utterly unfounded by Jay Gould's own evidence, and was never attempted to be intimated by any other person than James Fisk, Jr., whom every one admits ought to be breaking stones in Sing Sing instead of reveling in stolen wealth, whose future accumulations were prevented by the President ordering to sell gold at the time it was cornered.

The *Times* adds to its full and definite refutation of all the charges against President Grant: "A man of purer character than General Grant never occupied the Presidential chair. It is the conviction of a majority of the people look upon these conditions with indignation. They admire pluck and silence in public men. And to see injustice done, and despise the cowards who try to undermine public reputation by defaming private character."

TELEGRAPH TRICKERY.

Senator Chandler in the Senate has just stricken some telling blows at telegraph monopoly and watered stocks. There is no doubt that the telegraph rates ought to be less than one-half what they now are, and they would still pay an enormous profit on the money actually invested, but the other lobbyers step in with their watering pots every two or three years, and the country is compelled to pay dividends on stock which represents no real value in property and which did not cost the holders as much as a dollar on the dollar. Some think that Congress should pass a law fixing rates for dispatches which on would yield a fair profit on the money actually invested, and prohibit the inflation of stock hereafter. But it is extremely doubtful whether the tricksters will be able to continue by some contrivance to fish money as well as brain facilities from the masses, unless the Government takes the matter in its own hands, and connects the telegraph with the postal system, thus reducing the price of telegraphing to its minimum.

The conveyance of thought by lightning is of such importance in this country of universal intelligence. That water-logged statesmen and politicals should no longer be allowed, by their well-known robbery of the people, to continue to put a period to human advancement, and the speedy transmission of thought throughout a country whose successful government depends greatly upon their propagation and growth.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Jim Fisk, Jr., has at last consented to commence his Madeira and wine tour, which is to be $35,000. It is still thought, however, that the correspondence will get into the papers in full, and also that Fisk will find his way into Sing Sing in due time, along with the other robbers of the people.

I recently met with one of the counsel of the great New York financier, Connolly, who spoke of visiting his client at Ludlow street jail. He also stated the fact that Boss Tweed could not be found, he having disappeared after his friend Judge Barnard had allowed him to be released on bail.

In the reform State of Missouri, which Carl Schurz represents, it has just transpired that a ring has been exposed in the Legislature in appropriating under various disguises the proceeds of over a million and a half acres of swamp land, which were granted for purposes. Thus is New York's example imitated.

Commissioner Douglass has ordered that after January 1st, 1872, Deputy Collectors of Revenue Officers and Storekeepers of Distilleries are revoked and their duties shall be performed by Assistant Assessors. This will save the Government $50,000 annually.

The reading of the decision in the legal tender cases has been postponed, and will be read at an early day after the recess.

AGATE.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON.

PARIS, December 23.—The name of Bolleau is now mentioned in connection with the Ministry to Washington, Ferry's nomination having been withdrawn. The rumor that General Cissey would go to Washington is unfounded.

COUNCIL DISSOLVED.

The Prefect of the Department of Bouches du Rhone has dissolved the Council of Aries and annulled its acts, because of its mismanagement of the finances.

SALE OF NEWSPAPER PROHIBITED.

The sale of a violently radical newspaper, *La Republique Radicale*, in Marseilles, has been prohibited.

ASSEMBLY ADJOURNED.

VERSAILLES, December 23.—The National Assembly has adjourned until the 5th of January.

GREAT BRITAIN.

JOYFUL NEWS.

LONDON, December 23.—The Erie Protection Committee publishes the following as received from New York: The new Attorney General, Hamilton Fish, has this morning, in capacity to break up the whole combination of the Erie ring, without respect to persons. The publication of this telegram has been received with great joy by parties interested.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

LONDON, December 24, 12 M.—The Prince of Wales passed a quiet night. He is gradually gaining strength.

ITALY.

PRECONIZATION OF BISHOPS.

ROME, December 23.—The Pope yesterday performed the ceremony of preconization in the cases of twenty-eight newly appointed bishops, including nineteen Italians and three Frenchmen.

CINCINNATI.

Central Union and Reform Organization.

CINCINNATI, O., December 24.—The Central Union and Reform organization adopted a platform and elected officers yesterday. The officers are: President, W. B. Caldwell; Vice Presidents, Julius King, J. B. Stalle and Geo. Headley; Secretary, B. Stoner, Jr. Among the members of the committeees are Robert Harper, Alfred Yaple, M. W. Oliver, J. C. Fallet, F. H. Assurick, G. W. Nichols, Stanley Matthew, M. M. Pomeroy and Nicholas Longworth. The platform adheres to the organization all law abiding citizens, without distinction to party. It obligates the organization to organize branches in all parts of the States. It states its object in the following words: One of the special objects of this league shall be to secure the election of capable and honest men to local offices, and to defeat all unfit and corrupt ring candidates by whatever party name they may be known. It also labor to disseminate its declared principles and to promote its objects in this State and throughout the Union.

The attendance at the meeting was not very large.

PROBABLE FATAL TRAGEDY.

A tragedy occurred in front of the *Enquirer* office at three o'clock this morning. Charles Tolman, assistant pressman of the Methodist Book Concern, was in Lorezo Deagle's saloon, where he got into a quarrel with a customer. Deagle kindly started to lead him home. Arriving at the *Enquirer* office, Tolman drew a pistol and shot Deagle in the left breast. The ball passed above it in the pearl. Deagle will die. Tollman is under arrest. He was fifty-three years old; Deagle forty. Both are married families. Tollman's reputation has been good.

THE RIVER.

The river is rising very slowly; seven feet two inches in the channel. The ice is all gone. Navigation has been resumed between here and Louisville. It is expected that the river will be open to the Mississippi to-morrow. The Minneola is receiving for Memphis and the Lee for Red River. No damage was done by the high water other than the accident that two holes were made in the hull of the Abeona, which she will repair without going on the docks. The propeller Ariel is now discharging. A special to the *Gazette* from the clerk of the U. S. Gray reports the arrival of that boat at Pine Bluff, she having doubled from Rob Roy.

GEORGIA.

Railway Matters.

AUGUSTA, December 23.—During the past two days the directors of the Georgia and representatives of the Georgia Central Railroad have been conferring here. The cause of the conference is that the Pennsylvania Central have been endeavoring to lease three lines leading from Atlanta to Savannah, in which the Georgia and Georgia Central are both largely interested. The Pennsylvania Central is said to have made a proposal to the Georgia Railroad towards getting its consent to a lease. The Georgia Central is now endeavoring to prevent any arrangement of this kind, and offers other terms to the Georgia Railroad. It is believed that the terms will be accepted and the Pennsylvania Central will fail to get the control of the lines.

CHICAGO.

Drowned.

CHICAGO, December 24.—Two of the crew of the steamer East Saginaw, lying in the river at the foot of Wells street, fell from that vessel last night about ten o'clock, and were drowned. Their names were Edward White and Cummings. White fell into the river first, and Cummings, in endeavoring to rescue him, shared his fate. White was intoxicated.

POLICE ON A SCENT.

Some of our police think they are on the scent of a Rosenzweig-Bowlsby case. They regard it as a matter of such grave importance as to maintain entire secrecy as to the facts.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

—Small-pox is on the increase in New York city.

—The steamships Ismailia and Cambria have arrived at New York.

—Fifty-seven deaths from small-pox occurred at Cincinnati last week.

—Sidney E. Morse, brother of Prof. Morse, died in New York last Saturday, aged 78.

—Two hundred and twenty-eight deaths from small-pox occurred in Philadelphia last week.

—Chicago suffered considerably by the heavy wind storm which prevailed last Saturday.

—A violent wind storm prevailed at Indianapolis, Ind., last Saturday, doing considerable damage.

—Grand Duke Alexis arrived at Buffalo last Saturday afternoon, and was enthusiastically received.

—The steamer Roseville, with 10,000 bales of cotton on board, was sunk in the Arkansas River last Wednesday.

—Wm. F. Purcell, R. Judge of the Orphans' Court of the District of Columbia, died last Friday night at Washington.

—A boy only eighteen years of age was arrested at New Albany last Saturday for forging a check for two hundred dollars.

—A locomotive on the Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad exploded last Saturday, killing the engineer and fireman.

—The Order of United American Mechanics will celebrate Washington's birthday in New York by a grand banquet, ball, etc.

—Information has been received by mail, stating that General Schenck has withdrawn from the directorship of the Emma mine.

—The Ontario (Canada) Parliament has been prorogued until the 18th of January. The vacancies in the Ministry will then be filled.

—In a storm near New Albany, Ind., last Saturday, a horse, buggy and two men were lifted up and carried a distance of forty feet, but escaped unhurt.

—Mr. Morrison R. Waite, of Toledo, one of the counsel before the Geneva arbitrators, arrived in New York on Friday, and calls with his associates on the Cuba on Wednesday for Europe.

—A special dispatch to the New York *World* says a new line of Canadian steamboats, owners of the Erie Railway has been held at Montreal, Canada, to form a combination against the ring and present management.

—A Niagara Falls dispatch states that the Grand Duke received a telegram yesterday from Queen Victoria, announcing the convalescence and probable recovery of the Prince of Wales, to which he responded.

—A snow bird match was shot at Toronto, last Saturday, between Captain Bogardus, the champion shot of the United States, and James Ward, of Toronto. Ward shot sixty-six birds out of one hundred, and Bogardus sixty-five.

—A resolution has been introduced in the St. Louis city council for the appointment of a commission of three well known citizens to examine the qualifications of the incumbent of the Mayor, after the fashion of civil reform.

—In the Supreme Court at Boston an application was made for an injunction restraining the directors of the Boston and Maine Railroad from issuing two million dollars of new stock authorized by the stockholders on the 13th inst.

—A freight train was thrown from the track down an embankment, about forty feet, by a broken rail, near Youngstown, Ohio, last Friday. John Ready, a brakeman, jumped off and was struck by the caboose and instantly killed. The conductor and several others were slightly injured.

—A man named M. B. Pierce, who, it seems, was Sheriff of Fon du Lac county, Wis., was found dead in the cupola of the jail at St. Louis, last Saturday, with a pistol shot in his left breast, and a pistol lying on the floor. Pecuniary difficulties are supposed to be the cause.

—A dispatch from Memphis says: About three hundred negro men, thoroughly armed with shot guns and pistols, part of whom came from Arkansas, left there last Friday night, destined ostensibly for Helena, but it is almost certain for the election of the Lincoln county, Arkansas, to assist their brethren.

—A dispatch from Little Rock, Ark., says reliable advices from Chicot county establish a fair portion of the negroes actually to vote, and prohibit the inflation of stock hereafter. But it is extremely doubtful whether the tricksters will be able to continue by some contrivance to fish money as well as brain facilities from the masses, unless the Government takes the matter in its own hands, and connects the telegraph with the postal system, thus reducing the price of telegraphing to its minimum.

—The conveyance of thought by lightning is of such importance in this country of universal intelligence. That water-logged statesmen and politicals should no longer be allowed, by their well-known robbery of the people, to continue to put a period to human advancement, and the speedy transmission of thought throughout a country whose successful government depends greatly upon their propagation and growth.

HOME NEWS.

The Welsh Eisteddfod.

Our Welsh citizens will hold their "Eisteddfod" for literary purposes at Lafayette Hall this evening, when prizes will be given to the successful competitors in prose, poetry, declamation recitation.

T. B. Morris, Esq., of the "Baner America," of Scranton, Pa., will judge upon the merits of the prose and poetry, and J. W. Jones, of Brownstown, upon recitation and declamation.

In the evening the singing will be passed upon by Mr. A. J. Madock, of Utica, N. Y.

Mr. David Matthias, of Woods' Run, will officiate as President, and Alderman H. J. Thomas as Vice President.

Cutting Affray.

On Saturday evening, at about seven o'clock, a serious affray occurred at Ingraham Station, on the Panhandle Railroad, about seven miles from the city. It appears that Michael O'Neil, an Irishman by birth, having stopped in the telegraph office at the station, for the purpose of lighting his pipe, an altercation sprang up between himself and the telegraph operator, who is familiarly known as "Honey," when the latter drew a knife and cut O'Neil in four places, in the side and thigh, inflicting serious though not dangerous injuries. An information charging "Honey" with felonious assault was yesterday made at Mansfield, and a warrant for O'Neil's arrest has been issued.

Christmas Anticipated.

School visitors often see pleasant incidents. Children will be happy in spite of everything, and whoever trys to please them may be sure of a four-fold recompense. Friday morning the boys and girls of Miss Nixon's select school assembled in their recitation rooms on Forty-third street, expecting to be dismissed at 9 o'clock, but instead of reciting the lesson "We "happened in" just in time to see them enjoy a pleasant suprise. Every lad and lassie had provided a basket filled with the choicest things. Miss N. believes in the power of persuasion and uses the very best expedients to secure the respect and confidence of her classes. But perhaps the more notable feature of this occasion was a presentation to Miss Nixon by her pupils. An excellent engraving of "Here and Beyond," and a beautiful silver piece, have been made still more excellent and beautiful to her as remembrances of a happy scene.

Presentation.

Among all the presentations that have been recorded in this holiday season the one that impressed us most kindly was that of a pair of gloves presented by Miss Crooks and Miss Mauspeker, two of the lady teachers in the Fourth ward public schools, to Mr. John Patton, the janitor of the building, last evening. The time is most praiseworthy in these ladies that they thought so kindly of an humble office bearer upon whose care and fidelity the comfort of both teachers and scholars depends. The gloves are of superb quality made of the fur of the otter and faced with soft dressed buck skin and of the pattern known as "Gauntlet." They are warm enough to resist the cold of Greenland's icy mountains, and long enough to live to wear them, and long may the donors live to exemplify their generous principles.

Rare Musical Treat.

Many of our readers have no doubt heard the celebrated Hutchison Family sing, and all have heard of them, and we doubt not longed for the opportunity of listening to their soul-stirring melodies. It will, therefore, give great pleasure to all lovers of good music to learn that they have consented to stop here on their way west, and that they will give a concert on next Wednesday evening, 27th inst., at 7½ o'clock, in the Second United Presbyterian Church, corner Sixth avenue and Cherry alley. The entire proceeds are for the benefit of the Temperance cause, and the Young Men's Home. Admission 50 cents. Children half price. Tickets for sale at Y. M. C. A. rooms, corner Penn avenue and Sixth street, and at the door. As this is the only concert they will give here at this time, all should avail themselves of this opportunity of hearing them.

The Unknown Dead Inentified.

The unknown man who died in the lockup on Thursday evening, was buried on Saturday, from the undertaking establishment of Mr. Alex. Aiken, on Fourth avenue. Shortly after the body had been removed, a gentleman visited the office to see if it was the remains. The dead man was described to him, and the papers found on his person were shown. He said at once that it was that of the deceased was a boarder of his, named William Pierce, as previously supposed. The latter had been missing his home for several days, and the gentleman said was torn from his own note-book, and the signature at the bottom was in the handwriting of the deceased. He described as a thoroughly respectable person. He said he would take an occasional drink, but was not a drunkard, and had never seen him under the influence of liquor. The dead man has a sister living at Soho, and it is probable the body will be claimed by her.

Christmas Jubilee.

The annual Christmas jubilee of the children connected with the Christ M. E. Church Sunday School was held yesterday afternoon and proved one of the most pleasant in the history of the School. The school room had been elegantly decorated for the occasion with evergreens and flowers and beautiful mottoes. The platform, which gave to it a holiday appearance, chaste and in every way attractive. The exercises, under the supervision of the Superintendent, Mr. Thomas Bakewell, commenced at two o'clock and consisted of music, Christmas carols, Bible readings, addresses by the pastor of the church, Rev. I. A. Pearce, and Rev. M. Gaston and other services. An additional interesting feature, which add much to the delight of the Jubilee was the presence of the Hutchisons family of singers who in their inimitable way sang appropriate Christmas songs. The programme occupied a couple of hours, and at the close the children, so quietly and so delightful teachers knew of it—were supplied each with a box of sweetmeats just before being dismissed. The Jubilee throughout was a delightful recreation, enjoyed alike by teachers, scholars and visitors, and one which formed another link in the golden chain which binds all to their Sunday school.

NECK BROKEN.

A Man Falls from a Wagon and is Instantly Killed.

Last evening about four o'clock, John Temple, a resident of Baldwin township, was killed instantly by being thrown from a wagon. It appears that at the time stated Mr. Temple was driving from the city to his home on the Brownsville road, in a spring wagon, drawn by one horse. When near the store of Mr. Charles Miller, about three miles from the city, his horse balked. Rising to his feet in the wagon, Mr. T. struck the animal with the whip in his hand. The horse leaping forward started the vehicle off with a jerk, and the unfortunate man was thrown to the ground on the head and back and broken. The remains were carried to a house near by, where they await an inquest, which will probably be held to-day by Coroner West.

SHOOTING AFFRAY.

A Drunken Quarrel—Man Dangerously Injured.

Saturday evening a shooting affray occurred in Allegheny, which may yet be attended with serious consequences. Tom Bell and James Taney, while in a saloon on Robinson street, near Sandusky, had a quarrel, and adjourned to the street. Here the matter was supposed to be compromised until Bell made some remark which excited the wrath of Taney who drew a revolver and fired. The ball struck Bell on the upper rib of the left side, and, it is feared, has passed into the back. Taney at once fled and Bell was taken to his home in Bell's alley, in the vicinity, where a physician was called in by whom the ball was extracted.

Yesterday an information was lodged before Alderman Hoover charging Taney with felonious assault, but the fellow has managed to keep out of the way of the police. The victim was suffering considerably last night.

FATALITIES.

Two Violent Deaths on Saturday Evening.

Thomas Grogan, aged about fifteen years, was found, on Saturday evening about four o'clock, lying in the alley in the rear of Wood's steel works, near "Hardscrabble." When found it was discovered that he had received a deep gash on the side of the head, which is supposed was inflicted by a falling piece of timber, or by coming in contact during the storm, or else by his falling on a piece of iron living beside him when found. He was conveyed to his home, and Dr. Arthurs summoned, but medical skill could do nothing to save the unfortunate lad, and he died in a few minutes after being found. Coroner West summoned a jury, but owing to the absence of important witnesses, adjourned the inquest until this morning at ten o'clock.

Ebenezer Duffield, aged thirty years, was drowned on Saturday night between ten and eleven o'clock, at the ferry landing in South Pittsburgh. He was attempting to cross the city in a skiff, which had been landed outside of a fleet of barges, from the inside one of which a plank had been thrown. In order for the use of persons having occasion to cross over them to the shore. Instead of taking this plank, it appears, Duffield attempted to walk to the shore on a piece of a gunwale, used as a spar, from which he slipped and fell into the water. The current being here swift, he was at once carried under one of the barges, and drowned. The body was recovered at eight o'clock yesterday morning, an inquest held by Coroner West, and a verdict of accidental drowning rendered. Duffield was a native of New Jersey, was a widower, and leaves three children.

ANOTHER ELECTION TROUBLE.

The "Recount" in the Fourth Ward, Allegheny—The Court Appealed to—Charges of Fraud now Made—A Hearing Appointed.

In pursuance of the resolution passed at the meeting held in the Fourth ward, Allegheny school house, Friday evening, Mr. C. Weiter, assisted by his counsel, Messrs. Moore and Holland brought up the matter of alleged irregularities at the last election in that District. The counsel presented a petition signed by forty-three citizens of the ward, asking that the late election be investigated. The petitioners claim that the election was undue, and in support of this make the following allegations:

First—that some thirty-two names were marked on the lists as having voted at said election, when, as in fact, the citizens so marked as having voted did not, and the said votes were counted and returned by the said election officers.

Second—The said officers did not count the votes polled at said precinct hourly, and proclaim the same to the voters present as required by act of Assembly.

Third—That the number of illegal and fraudulent votes were sufficient to defeat the election of the said Charles L. Wiltershausen, who was as we believe elected by a majority of the legal votes of the said ward. The petitioners therefore pray the Court to hear and determine said complaint.

After the petition had been read the Court ordered it to be filed, and appointed Saturday morning next for hearing all parties interested due notice will be given.

At the hearing the testimony on which these allegations are based, will be presented. It is well that the case has assumed this shape at last, as it is the only method of fairly setting at rest the question one way or another.

Marbleized Mantles at James Olds, 193 Liberty street, 6

BREVITIES.

CHRISTMAS, 1871.

REMEMBER the poor.

A MERRY Christmas!

NO PAPER to-morrow.

NO skating rink ever paid in this city.

THIS promises to prove a green Christmas.

CITY COUNCILS will adjourn *sine die* on Friday.

MOST retail shops will remain open part of to-day.

THE different churches were well attended yesterday.

A MERRY and happy Christmas to you all, gentle readers.

MIDNIGHT: and a merry Christmas carol from Trinity chimes.

HALLOW your Christmas with good deeds of love and charity to-day.

THE streets were crowded yesterday with persons out sight seeing.

ALDERMAN CLEVENGHIRT has been dangerously ill, but is recovering.

PRESENTATION CARDS—those in use by candidates for municipal office.

TO-MORROW one week hence the State Legislature will be convened.

THE Trinity chimes attracted quite a number of listeners last evening.

IT is supposed by learned men that the first letter ever made was the alphabet.

HUNDREDS of men and boys were enjoying the ice on the Allegheny yesterday.

115 happy to-day, and try and make all those you may be in company with happy.

THE Rangby beer garden has changed hands, according to his request to be allowed to retire on account of ill-health, and conferring upon him the Grand Cross of the Order of Leopold.

A RESIDENT of Worcester, who had been married but a few weeks, on awakening, a few mornings since, found his wife gifted powers from the gifted pen of Barney O'Hea. Each was well pleased in this instance.

PATRICK MELROY, an old and respected citizen of Ebensburg died last week aged 98.

AN angry word spoken to loved ones to-day may be remembered, with regret, all through life.

THINK to-day of those little boys and girls who were too poor to receive Santa Claus last night.

$1,600 was collected yesterday in St. Paul's Cathedral for the usual Christmas present to the orphans.

A SMALL boy was knocked down on Fifth avenue by a team attached to a wagon, but less hurt than frightened.

HOME AND POOR.—Nothing is so hard for those who abound in riches as to conceive how others can be in want.

A WISE man being asked how old he was, replied, "I am in debt," and being asked how rich he was, said, "I am not in debt."

A NEWLY elected Board of Deacons were ordained at the First Presbyterian church yesterday, in connection with the morning service.

MILLIONS of empty stockings covered as many mantels throughout the world last night, and millions of little hearts will be filled with joy this morning.

MRS. ELIZA ADDISON MOWRY, of this city, aged sixty-four years, died on Friday evening last. Truly death has been busy of late among our oldest people.

A number of Pennsylvania Railroad officials and Consolidated Gas Company officers leave for Chicago to-day to participate in the wedding ceremonies of Mr. French of this city.

It is said that New Year's receptions will be flatter than heretofore on the approaching occasion, which is everything but a "flattering picture" for the consumers of free lunches and congratulatory alcohol.

In one week from to day the ladies will be accorded the privilege of speaking for themselves at the polls—and about the only one—upon which they ordinarily seem loth to exercise their prerogative.

The ingenious milkman drives a cream colored horse, and says he does so as a sign that his milk is creamy and rich. There is not much in that, however, as of course he waters the horse at least three times a day.

ROBERT BUPERT and Jonas Smith were before Commissioner McCandless on Saturday, charged with retailing liquor without payment of license. Bupert was held in $1000 each for trial at the February term.

GOVERNOR HAYES has appointed J. Bryant Walker, son of the late Timothy Walker, and John Welch Lacer, Esq., one of the Supreme of Cincinnati, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Judges Peaslee and Taft.

A LARGE number of the friends of the daughter of Michael Crawford, residing on Butler street, was fatally burned on Friday morning, by her clothing taking fire from an open grate. The child died Friday night about ten o'clock.

COL. JOHN B. BUTLER, of the Beaver *Argus*, was in the city yesterday. He was warmly welcomed by his numerous friends, and, with few exceptions, we believe Col. Butler to be the oldest experienced journalist in the State.

THE pipes have been frozen in many parts of the city during the last few days, and, no matter, however, chiefly owing to the negligence of householders, a number of the water taps so that they will drip during the night.

ALEXIS has unintentionally affronted Boston by offering $1,500 for the relief of its paupers. He should have known that every good body in Boston is in thriving circumstances. They always send their paupers to other cities.

A MEMBER of the Liverpool Stock Etchange recently threw a quantity of cotton into the fire, and with it Bank of England notes to the amount of £1,400. As the notes were not numbered, he will have to bear the entire loss.

THE Emperor of Austria has addressed an autograph letter to Baron Rangby, Chamberlain, according to his request to be allowed to retire on account of ill-health, and conferring upon him the Grand Cross of the Order of Leopold.

A RESIDENT of Worcester, who had been married but a few weeks, on awakening, a few mornings since, found his wife gifted powers from the gifted pen of Barney O'Hea. Each was well pleased in this instance.

ST. PATRICK'S FAIR.—In the basement of the Cathedral the Orphan's Fair is in progress. The attractions this year are very numerous, and we are glad to say that the object of the Fair has been a success. If you would help the little orphan, pay the Fair a visit. You cannot fail to be pleased.

FRAZER'S HALL.—In Allegheny the grand fair and festival of Lincoln Temple is under progress, and to-day and to-morrow will also be presented. We urge our readers to visit the hall.

Fine Jewelry and General Goods.

The finest assortment of diamonds in the city exhibited for sale during the season is the collection offered by Mr. E. De Ray, the well known and reputable diamond dealer and pawn broker, whose office and salesrooms are in the new Opera HOUSE building, corner of Sixth and Smithfield streets. In addition to his fine line of diamonds, Mr. De Ray offers a general assortment of beautiful and fashionable jewelry, rings, watches, chains, revolvers, musical goods and hundreds of other articles of use, beauty and ornament, which will form most elegant selections for present making. We commend Mr. De Roy to the patronage of our readers, knowing him to be honorable and fair dealing in all things.

List of Letters Held for Postage.

Mrs Wm. R Calhoun, Springfield, O.; Conway & Bros., Philadelphia, Pa., 3c; J. F. Dirk, Greensburg, Pa., 2c; M. Donahue, Present, 2c; Douglass & McCoy, Meadville, Pa., 3c; Wm. H. Y. Gibson, Salem, O., 3c; Dr. H. Hanson, Hyde Park, Canada, 6c; Mrs. George Heubal, Springdale, Pa., 3c; Miss Maggie Landson, Hanover, Pa., 3c; Messrs. Lewis Hedges, & Co., East Liberty; Pa., John F. Negley, Farenton, Pa., 3c; Miss Robert Waddle, Allegheny, Pa.; 3c.

EDITORS GAZETTE: I read in your issue of Saturday morning a notice of the closing exercises of the Second Ward Public School, Allegheny, previous to the holiday vacation. While I am pleased to know that any one who may have been present should speak so favorably of our efforts, I am of the opinion that the writer has done injustice to former pupils who have participated in the semi-annual entertainments, as well as to my predecessors as principals of the school. I was truly gratified with the entertainment on the occasion referred to, which I have every reason to believe that they did no better than others have done on similar occasions. Again, the article referred to is at fault in stating that *several* interesting presentations were made, while the fact is that only *one* was made. Miss Hendry, assistant principal, being the recipient of a beautiful present from the pupils of the Second High School. By giving this a place in your columns, you will greatly oblige the undersigned.

G. F. McCORD,
Principal, Second ward, Allegheny city.

SANITARY MATTERS.

The Health of the Cities—Special Meetings of the Health Boards—Where the Small-Pox Exists in Pittsburgh—Trouble in the Allegheny Camps—"Insulted" Members—Resignations Reported—The Disease in Allegheny.

On Saturday afternoon a regular meeting of the Pittsburgh Board of Health was held.

The members present were Messrs. McCandless, Edwards, House, Fleming and Ahlers. Dr. McCandless presided. The last meeting's minutes were read and